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THE WAR GARDEN VICTORIOUS

CHARLES LATHROP PACK

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THE WAR GARDEN VICTORIOUS

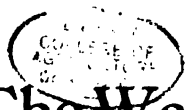
ITS WAR TIME NEED AND ITS ECONOMIC VALUE IN PEACE

Will you have a part in Victory?

"Every Garden a Munition Plant"

Charles Lathrop Pack, President

THIS POSTER, USED IN 1918, AND WITH DIFFERENT SLOGANS IN 1919, WAS POPULAR WHEREVER IT APPEARED AND DID MUCH TO EXTEND THE WAR GARDEN MOVEMENT



The War Garden Victorious

BY

CHARLES LATHROP PACK

ILLUSTRATED

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PHILADELPHIA

SB43
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Agric. Dept.

A. T. L.

THIS book is dedicated to the War Gardeners of the United States and Allied countries in admiration of their success in adding to the world's supply of food during the World War.

With the Compliments
of the Author
Charles Lathrop Pack

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CONTENTS

CHAPTER		PAGE
I.	How the National War Garden Commission Came into Being	1
II.	The Story of the War Garden	12
III.	How War Gardens Helped	24
IV.	Types of War Gardens	35
V.	Uncle Sam's First War Garden	46
VI.	How Big Business Helped	53
VII.	How the Railroads Helped	68
VIII.	The Army of School Gardeners	73
IX.	Community Gardening	79
X.	Coöperation in Gardening	89
XI.	War Gardens as City Assets	96
XII.	The Part Played by Daylight Saving	105
XIII.	The Future of War Gardening	109
XIV.	Conserving the Garden Surplus	121
XV.	Community Conservation	126
XVI.	Conservation by Drying	134
XVII.	Why We Should Use Dried Foods	145
XVIII.	The Future of Dehydration	155
XIX.	Coöperation of the Press	165

APPENDIX

"War Gardening," Victory Edition, 1919

"Home Canning and Drying," Victory Edition, 1919

COLOR PLATES

PAGE

"Every Garden a Munition Plant" .....*Frontispiece*

A Poster Spreading the Idea of Militant War Gardens.... 12

A Poster for 1919, Symbolic of Victory 14

A Poster Which Was Used in 1918, and Which, Amended—Following Germany's Defeat—Was Also Forceful in 1919 16

ILLUSTRATIONS

PAGE

A First-Year War Garden 4
On Historic Ground 6
A Typical City Garden 8
A Veteran War Gardener 10
No "Slacker Land" Here 18
One of Cleveland's War Gardens 20
No Wonder She Smiles 22
Garden of a Chicago Amateur 26
In an Italian Garden 28
In the Champion Garden City 30
Medal in Commemoration of the War Garden 32
The War Gardener's Boast 34
Pioneers in Summer Hotel Gardening 38
An Army Garden at the Red Cross Threshold 42
A Prize-Winning Garden 44
"Now, Boys, Show 'Em How to Harvest" 46
"Potatoes Up! Forward March!" 48
Gathering the Potatoes 50
Going Out to Meet the Crop 52
What a Factory Worker Did 54
All the Family Helps 56
A Versatile Manufacturing Concern 60
War Garden Display in Bank Window 62
Nationality Made No Difference 64
This Is Not Neptune 66
On Pennsylvania Railroad Ground 68
Some Railroad "Soldiers of the Soil" 70
Along the East River Front 74
One of Cleveland's School Gardens 76

Planting a Community Garden 80
Boy Scouts Raised the Food 82
"Papa, See Me Hoe?" 84
Raising "Food F. O. B. the Factory Door" 86
A Polyglot Assembly 90
Down in "The Yards" 94
'Midst Towering Skyscrapers 98
War Garden on Boston Common 102
"County Fair" in Bryant Park 104
No Age Limit on Patriotism 106
Prize-Winning Canning Team in Iowa 110
The Question Is: Does It "Jell"? 112
Received Certificate Number One 114
Interior of a Bank, Not a Fine Grocery 116
Getting the Winter Supply Ready 118
A Prize-Winning Exhibit 122
Girl Scouts Can Can, Too 126
Service Flag of the Home Canner 128
Achievement Club Girls 130
He Is Not Lecturing; He Won the Canning Contest 134
Preparing to Dry Vegetables 136
A Montana Prize Canner 138
They Helped to Can the Kaiser 140
Food Goes with the Flag 142
Toothsome Viands at Dried Food Luncheon 148
Drying Peaches in California 152
Preparing Raisins for the Market 156
Boxes for Drying Raisins 160
The Knights of Printers Ink Heard the Call for Food 166
Typical Headings from News Sheets 170
How Newspaper "Copy" Was Sent Out 172
With Picture and Type the Press Urged Gardening 176

THE WAR GARDEN VICTORIOUS

THE WAR GARDEN VICTORIOUS

CHAPTER I

HOW THE NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION CAME INTO BEING

The Need of Making Every Garden a Munition Plant

THE war garden was a war-time necessity. This was true because war conditions made it essential that food should be raised where it had not been produced in peace times, with labor not engaged in agricultural work and not taken from any other industry, and in places where it made no demand upon the railroads already overwhelmed with transportation burdens.

The knowledge that the world faced a deficit in food, that there existed an emergency which could be met only by the raising of more food, was apparent to every well-informed and thinking man and woman during the early months of 1917.

The author, wishing, as every patriot wished, to do a war work which was actually necessary, which was essentially practical, and which would most certainly aid in making the war successful, conceived the idea in March, 1917, of inspiring the people of the United States to plant war gardens in order to increase the supply of food without the use of land already cultivated, of

labor already engaged in agricultural work, of time devoted to other necessary occupations, and of transportation facilities which were already inadequate to the demands made upon them.

In March, therefore, some weeks before the United States entered the war, he organized for this work a commission known as the National War Garden Commission.

What were the causes which led to the world's lack of food and the need of a largely increased production by the United States to prevent world starvation?

When the drums sounded the call to the colors in the summer of 1914, three million Frenchmen shouldered their rifles and marched away from a large proportion of the five million farms of France; and mostly these were one-man farms. Russia, a nation almost wholly agricultural, mobilized perhaps eight millions of men. All the men of fighting age in Belgium were summoned to the army. England, possessing only a "contemptible little army," straightway began a recruiting campaign which within a few years swelled the ranks of her military forces to five millions. Germany called out her entire fighting force of military age, an army of several millions. Austria, Bulgaria and Turkey likewise mobilized their full fighting forces. Altogether, twenty or thirty million men were called away from their usual pursuits. The vocation of the majority of them was farming. Thus, at one stroke, practically all the farms in the embattled nations were swept clear of male workers.

At the same time the harvests were maturing or already ripe for the sickle; and over these laden acres swept the millions of soldiers, trampling, burning and destroying vast stores of food. In Belgium and France on the west front, and in Hungary, East Prussia, and Russia on the east, thousands upon thousands of crop-bearing acres were devastated and laid waste.

In a few short weeks this was the situation: the food supply was largely decreased, vast areas of farming land were rendered unproductive, and the farms were practically stripped of their accustomed tillers. The world's food supply was thrown entirely out of balance. Ordinarily the food-supply system was as nicely adjusted as the parts of a watch. Production was balanced against consumption. Given markets were supplied from given sources.

So unfailing was this system that each of the belligerent nations absolutely depended upon other nations for certain parts of its food, and had received its expected supply as unfailingly as our daily milk and newspapers are delivered at our doors. Thus England procured most of her sugar from Germany, and Italy got wheat from Russia, by way of the Dardanelles. At one stroke, this nicely balanced system was destroyed.

Worse than the wrecking of the system of distribution was the unbalancing of production itself. Millions of farms, stripped of their male workers, necessarily became either wholly unproductive or able to raise but a fraction of their normal output. In a moment's time, as it were, the food production of Europe was

lessened by millions and millions of bushels. Since food production is not, like Aladdin's palace, the creation of a night, this inevitably meant a shortage in the world's food supply. Before the European deficit could be made good by increased production elsewhere, months and perhaps years must elapse.

Then came the submarine, further to complicate matters. By hundreds of thousands of tons the world's shipping was sent to the bottom of the sea, so that in a short time the food situation wore an entirely new aspect. No matter what mountainous piles of provender might accumulate in the distant parts of the earth, it was not available for the nations at war. Ships could not be spared for long and distant voyages. If the 120,000,000 people of the Entente nations were to have food, if they were to procure enough to keep them from actual starvation, that food must come from the nearest markets. Only by sending their ships back and forth from these markets, back and forth like shuttles in a loom, could food be transported rapidly enough to keep this great population from starvation. Prior to the war England had produced but one-fifth of her own food supply, France one-half of hers, and Italy two-thirds of what she consumed, and now their home production was fearfully decreased. The nearest possible markets where food could be produced were in North America, and principally in our own country. Thus the burden of feeding the Entente fell very largely upon the United States. Whether we wished to undertake the task or not, Fate had saddled the burden upon our backs.

A FIRST-YEAR WAR GARDEN

This plot, formerly a grass and weed overgrown tract, was cultivated by one of the employes of the Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York, who organized a Home Gardeners' Association which was enthusiastically and patriotically supported. The work was encouraged by an exhibit of garden and canned products held by the company.

This fact, however, was not patent immediately. At least it was glimpsed only by those of keen penetration. In every country there were some accumulated stores. These served to delay the approach of actual hunger. Then came the year, 1916, which was, agriculturally, the most disastrous year the world has known, in recent times. Crops failed everywhere. European production decreased terribly. Our own fell off by hundreds of millions of bushels. What was left of accumulated surpluses was eaten up. The great drain on our food resources wiped out our surpluses also, for, in effect at least, we had pooled our food resources with our fellows in Europe. Thus both Europe and America found themselves living a hand-to-mouth existence.

It was barely an existence, at that—at least for our allies in Europe. So terrible had the food shortage there become that the daily rations had been cut to the minimum that would sustain life and strength. The peasant population of continental Europe, which means a large part of the people, lives principally upon wheat in one form or another. In France bread is literally the staff of life, normally constituting 52 per cent. of the Frenchman's food. Yet the French bread ration was successively lowered until at one time it reached seven ounces a day per capita. In Italy, the sale of macaroni was entirely prohibited in certain districts, and the bread ration was cut to eight ounces a day. Hard-working laborers were allowed fifteen ounces. In both of these countries even the bread ration of the

soldier was sharply reduced—a measure to which resort is had only in situations of direst necessity. Indeed, many well-informed persons attribute the disaster of 1917 on the Italian front to the lowering of morale consequent upon the cutting of the bread ration. The soldier well knew that if his food was cut his family must be well-nigh starving to death.

All Europe had to resort to meatless days. French milk production, as early as 1916, had fallen off sixty per cent. Dairy products were so scarce in England that cream could be secured only upon a physician's certificate declaring it necessary to the health of the recipient. Sugar consumption had to be rigidly restricted. The English, who before the war were the greatest users of sugar in the world, with an average consumption of something like ninety-three pounds a person a year, were restricted to twenty-six pounds per annum, and this ration was later cut to twenty-four pounds. The French were limited to thirteen pounds a year, and the sugar ration of the Italian was drastically cut to nine pounds a year. That is to say, persons of these nationalities were allowed to buy the quantities named when the foods were to be had, but often the food was not to be had. There were entire districts in France, for instance, where for days no bread at all was to be obtained and not much else. The actual consumption, therefore, was less than the ration allowed. Our own consumption, too, was sharply reduced. Through meatless and wheatless days our use of wheat and flesh was greatly lessened, while the high prices of butter, eggs,

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ON HISTORIC GROUND

Boston Common was credited with having one of the finest demonstration war gardens in the United States in 1918. This shows the quarter-acre section given over to potatoes, with Girl Scouts assisting in the cultivation. The gardens were planted by the Women's City Club, with experts on hand to give instruction and advice to visitors.

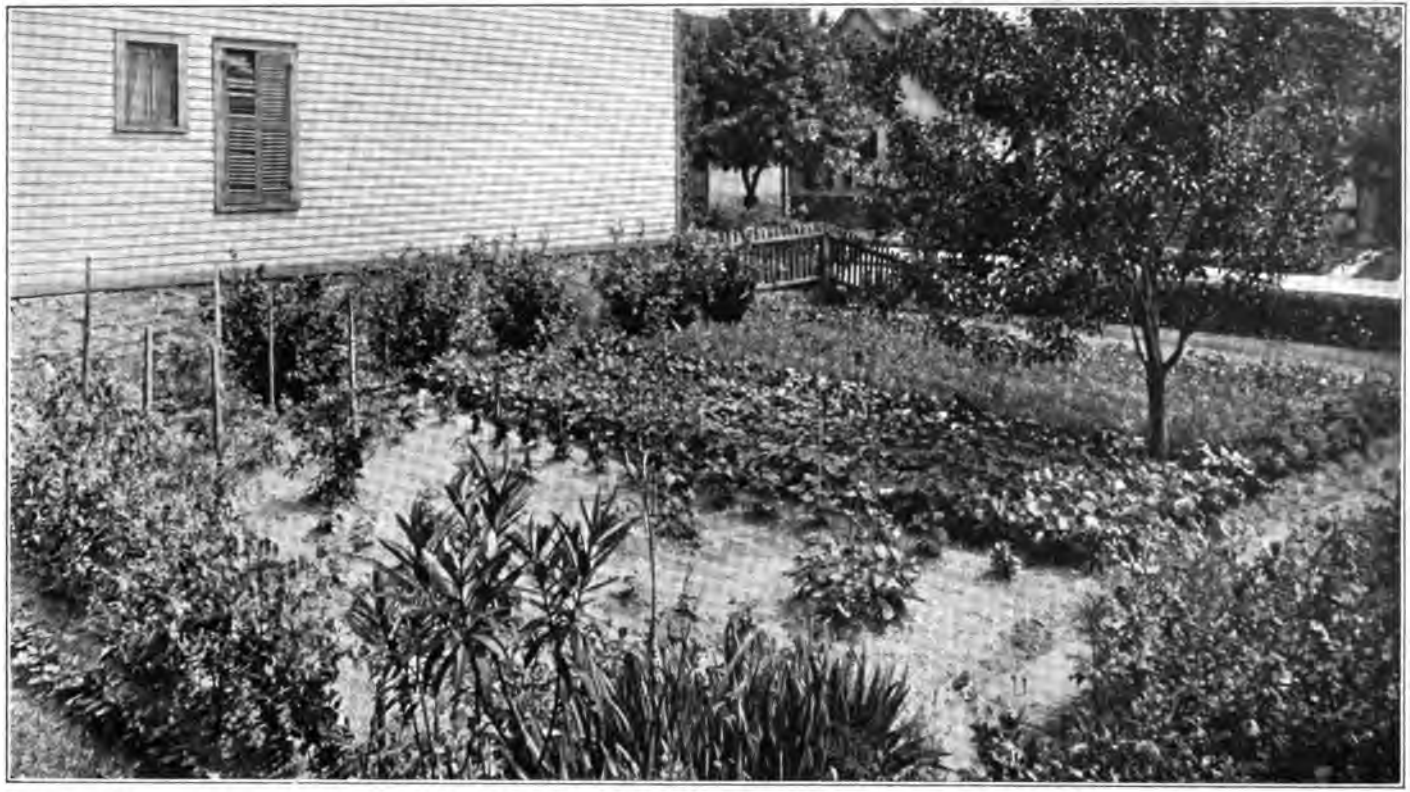
milk and other foods very materially aided in cutting consumption generally.

Lessened consumption, however, was not enough. There had to be increased production. Obviously Europe could not raise any more food than it was raising. Since America was the only country from which it was possible for Europe to draw food, it became necessary that we should enlarge our yields. The children of Israel could not make bricks for Pharaoh without straw; and when we attempted to create food for famishing Europe we experienced similar difficulty, though our shortage was of man-power. For a decade or more there had been a tremendous exodus from our farms. Our farmers cried for help, but their cry went unheeded until we found ourselves facing hunger. Then it was too late. It would have been as easy to put Humpty Dumpty together again as to bring back to the farm the thousands of boys and men who had been lured away by high wages in town and factory. How enormous had been this exodus from the farms we cannot tell accurately; but we know, from surveys made by the state, that, a decade ago, Pennsylvania had 160,000 farm hands as against 80,000 in 1918; and that in New York State in 1918 there were 45,000 fewer farm hands than in 1917, and 40,000 fewer farm girls. Every agricultural section of the nation was short-handed. When the crisis came, when the production of more food was absolutely imperative if the forces fighting for freedom were not to be starved into surrender and submission, our farms were found stripped of helpers. Our agri-

cultural system, weighed in the balance, was found wanting. The war drums which had called 3,000,000 men from the farms of France, had also created the lure of high wages in munition plants, and further robbed the farms of America. When the appeal went out to our farmers to produce more food they replied in a memorial to the President, that under existing conditions the previous rate of production could hardly be maintained, let alone increased—a prophecy which later proved true.

In the lexicon of the typical American there is no such word as "cannot." Keen-eyed Americans who saw the situation as it really was, decided that if the mountain would not go to Mahomet, they would see that Mahomet went to the mountain. The mountain in this case was labor, and Mahomet the space necessary for the production of food. These men, with that vision without which the people perish, possessed imagination. They saw little fountains of foodstuffs springing up everywhere, and the products of these tiny fountains, like rain-drops on a watershed, uniting to form rushing streams which would fill the great reservoirs built for their compounding. The tiny fountains were innumerable back-yard and vacant-lot gardens. The problem was to create these fountains.

This could be accomplished only by the systematic education of the people, the one hundred million people of the United States. Such a huge educational campaign could be carried out only through the customary channels of publicity—the daily press, the periodicals,



A TYPICAL CITY GARDEN

Every large community throughout the country contains hundreds of plots like this which can be turned into valuable gardens. This one is in the city of Rochester, New York, which had more than 15,000 war gardens in 1918. A big exposition was held in the Fall which attracted the interest of many thousands of people, not only in the city, but throughout that entire section of the state.

the bulletin-boards, and other usual avenues. Oddly enough, it is usually hardest to influence man for his own benefit. The matter of home food production was no exception to the rule. Before the people would spring to the hoe, as they instinctively sprang to the rifle, they had to be shown, and shown conclusively, that the bearing of the one implement was as patriotic a duty as the carrying of the other. Only persistent publicity, only continual preachment, could convince the public of that. Hence it was necessary that the campaign of education be well-conducted and continuous. This called for the creation of an organization to back the movement and assure its standing. The author, therefore, realizing the need of developing latent resources of food supply, and after consultation with other men who were eager to do their duty in the circumstances, conceived and organized the Commission.

This organization consisted of Charles Lathrop Pack, President, of New Jersey; Luther Burbank, California; P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, Washington, D. C.; Dr. Charles W. Eliot, Massachusetts; Dr. Irving Fisher, Yale University, Connecticut; Fred H. Goff, Ohio; John Hays Hammond, Massachusetts; Fairfax Harrison, Virginia; Hon. Myron T. Herrick, Ohio; President John Grier Hibben, Princeton University, New Jersey; Emerson McMillin, New York; A. W. Shaw, Illinois; Mrs. John Dickinson Sherman, chairman of the Conservation Department of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, Illinois; Capt. J. B. White, Missouri; Hon. James Wil-

son, former Secretary of Agriculture, Iowa; Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, Hon. Carl Vrooman, (for the year 1917); P. S. Ridsdale, Executive Secretary, who was also Executive Secretary of the American Forestry Association, with the Conservation Department of which the Commission was affiliated, and Norman C. McLoud, Associate Secretary.

The sole aim of the National War Garden Commission was to arouse the patriots of America to the importance of putting all idle land to work, to teach them how to do it, and to educate them to conserve by canning and drying all food they could not use while fresh. The idea of the "city farmer" came into being. In every part of the country were communities where land and labor were already together, where it would be necessary to move neither the mountain nor Mahomet. Near every city were vacant lots, "slacker lands," as useless as the human loafer, to whom, perhaps, Mahomet must be brought. Whether the land to be cultivated was a back yard or a vacant lot, it was a potential source of food supply, and the raising of food on these areas would solve many problems besides that of food production. Food raised by the householder in his yard or a near-by lot, was "Food F. O. B. the Kitchen Door." There were no problems of transportation or distribution to be solved in such food production.

The creation of an army of soldiers of the soil presented much the same difficulties presented by the creation of any other army. First of all there was the matter of recruiting. This was a purely volunteer move-

A VETERAN WAR GARDENER

There were hundreds of men and women throughout the United States who had passed the three-score-and-ten mark who tilled and cared for their own garden plots. This is Lewis Hunt, of Pearl River, New York, eighty-one years of age, who on his half-acre back yard raised a large supply of vegetables, while his daughter canned the surplus for winter use.

ment and all recruits must come through voluntary enlistment. Then it was necessary to point out the importance of the work and to create enthusiasm for gardening. Next, it was necessary to train the recruits. Intelligent instruction had to be furnished, for many of these new soldiers of the soil had never before handled a hoe or a garden fork. As the campaign progressed it was found that the best results could be obtained by organizing communities. Hence it became necessary to outline methods for community organization. So unexpectedly great was the response to the campaign that it proved essential to turn attention to the matter of food conservation, to the preservation of surplus products which the garden campaign had brought into being. The function of the Commission, therefore, was to awaken interest in both food production and food conservation and to provide instruction along each line of endeavor.

CHAPTER II

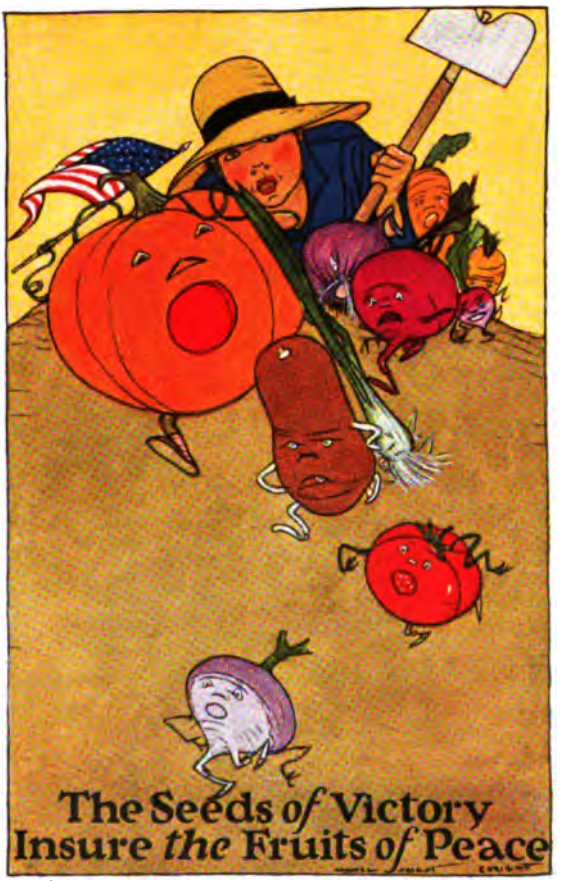
THE STORY OF THE WAR GARDEN

How American Gardeners Sowed the Seeds of Victory

WHILE the organizers of the War Garden Commission were optimistic and looked forward confidently to the accomplishment of large results, they little dreamed that the war-garden movement would grow so rapidly. The war-garden idea struck a patriotic chord. The American people answered the call to help win the war by producing food in their back yards with the same unanimity and enthusiasm they had shown in responding to each other appeal the country had made for service. One reason for the prompt and eager response to the National War Garden Commission's appeal to "Sow the Seeds of Victory," was that immediately after the United States entered the war everybody was patriotically desirous of rendering help in some form. Millions of people realized that they would never be able to take part as actual soldiers in the great task of overthrowing Prussian militarism. Because of this they wanted to take an active part in some effort which would show tangible results in the struggle for right and justice.

War gardening offered the opportunity. Although small home plots might not produce large amounts of food, such gardens made possible the saving of some of the wheat and meat and other foods which were

WAR GARDENS OVER THE TOP



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WASHINGTON, D.C.

Charles Lathrop Pack, President Percival S. Ridsdale, Secretary

A POSTER SPREADING THE IDEA OF MILITANT WAR GARDENS

needed by our army and which were practically the only kinds of food that could be shipped to our allies. Every pound of beef that could be saved through the growing of food at home, it was realized, would bring victory just so much nearer; and in fact, without food conservation, there was positive danger that the Central Powers would be able to have their way.

The food shortage faced by Great Britain, France, and Italy during the winter of 1917-18, the seriousness of which was not realized by the people of this country until long after the danger was passed, showed the wisdom which led to the saving of every particle of food. The ability of the United States to respond so magnificently to the appeal of the late Lord Rhondda, then Food Controller of Great Britain, for 75,000,000 additional bushels of wheat early in 1918, was made possible in part by substituting in the dietary, war-garden products for the customary commercial supplies.

Once embarked upon participation in the war it became evident that this nation would need to exert every ounce of her power in the prosecution of the conflict. In various localities anti-loafing laws were speedily enacted to put every man to work. Since food was even more necessary than man-power, it was of still greater importance to put to use every particle of "slacker land"—idle soil so located that it could be worked. In our cities and towns, where the man-power was available to cultivate these areas, were thousands upon thousands of acres of idle real estate.

Few people realized the enormous aggregate acre-

age thus standing useless. There was probably no town in the United States that did not have within its boundaries at least fifty acres of idle soil. In the larger communities where garden space was needed most, the aggregate area of vacant lots was astonishing. A survey made in Minneapolis, shortly before the war began, showed more than 5,000 acres in vacant lots. In 1917 a survey disclosed 186,000 vacant lots in greater New York. Altogether there were hundreds of thousands of idle acres in or near our towns and cities—the only places where labor was available for working them; and much of this land was suitable for gardening. It was of the utmost importance, therefore, to place these areas under cultivation.

In Great Britain steps had been taken very early in the war to utilize similar open spaces for the production of food. Parliament passed a law providing that any untaxed land which was not being used for the production of food might be taken over by the authorities and parceled out to those who were able and willing to raise food. Millions of "Allotments," as they were called, were asked for, and the production of vegetables increased incredibly. Thus the British were able in 1918 to produce all the potatoes they needed, and even to send a slight surplus to France. America possessed vast areas, in the aggregate, of these idle lands; but the importance of utilizing them for food production had not been generally realized, until pointed out by the Commission.

"Put the slacker land to work" became a slogan of the

War Gardens Victorious

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Every War Garden a Peace Plant—
—Charles Lathrop Pack, President.

NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C.

A POSTER FOR 1919, SYMBOLIC OF VICTORY

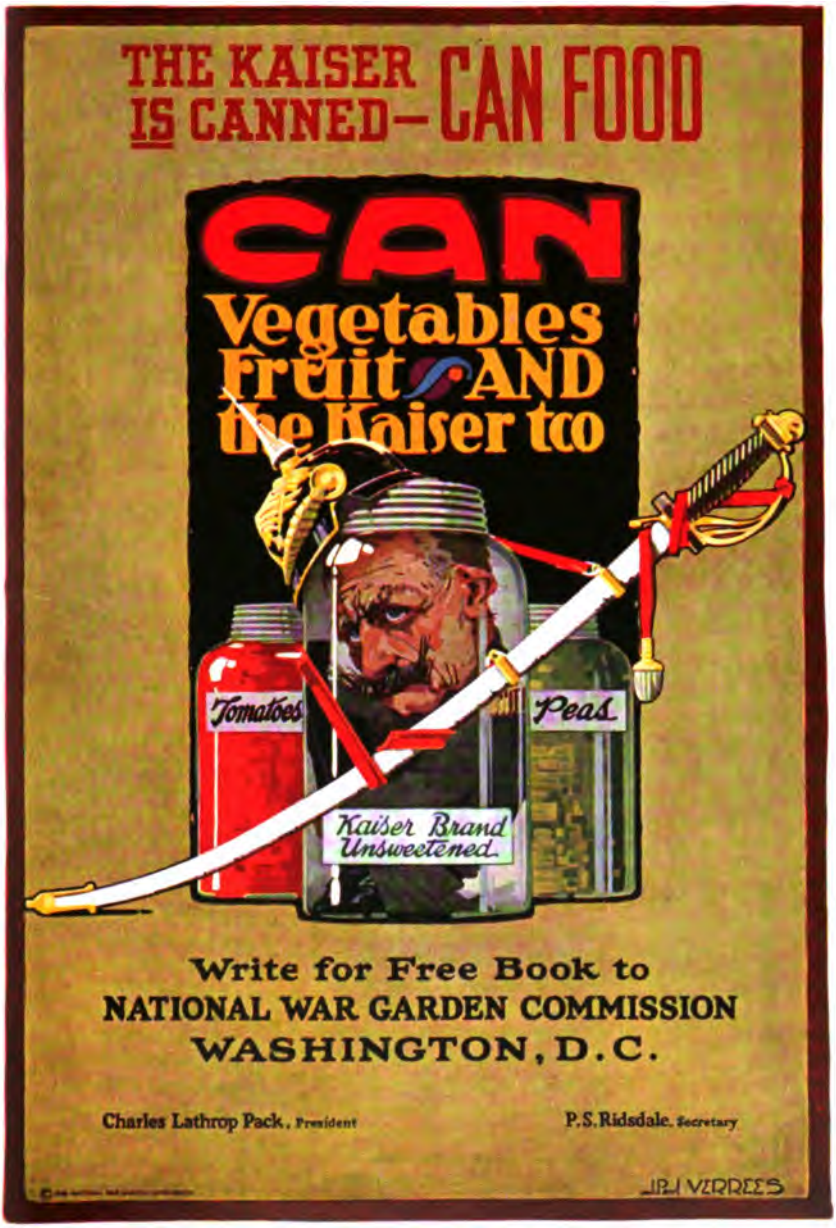
National War Garden Commission; and in response to its energetic campaign toward this end, the people in 1917 put to work more than 3,000,000 pieces of such uncultivated territory. In 1918 they ferreted out additional vast areas. The total number of war gardens for this latter season is conservatively estimated, after a careful survey, at 5,285,000.

With war's destruction occurring to an undreamed of and terrifying extent, involving the destruction of all kinds of material wealth as well as food, it soon became apparent that food shortage was only one of many shortages the world was facing. Conservation of everything became a crying need. The war garden offered an opportunity for conservation along many lines. First came the conservation of food itself. The daily ration of a soldier in our army consists of about four and a quarter pounds of food. A million soldiers would require at least 4,250,000 pounds of food a day. At this rate a year's supply of food for a million men would weigh 1,551,250,000 pounds—and we were planning to raise an army of four or five million men. To take from the ordinary channels of trade the colossal supplies necessary to feed such an army, with no extra food to replace that thus subtracted, would mean that householders would be forced to pay ruinously high prices for the food that remained. War gardening offered an opportunity to offset, in part, this tremendous drain on our commercial supplies, to eke out those supplies and make them go farther—which is really conservation in its truest sense.

War gardening promised to make many other things go farther. There was the matter of labor. There was only so much labor in existence. As the primary requisite of war, food would have the first call on labor, although other things besides food were needed. Cannon and shells and rifles and cartridges and uniforms and innumerable other articles were demanded in incomprehensible quantities. After taking four or five million men away from productive industry, obviously we should not have sufficient man-power left to create all that was needed of these various supplies. War gardening, by adding to the food supply, released for work on these lines men who otherwise would have been necessary on the farms. In short, war gardening conserved labor by making labor go farther.

The conservation, however, did not end with lessening the number of men needed on the farms. Commercial foods must pass through many hands before reaching the consumer. They must go through the hands of the farmer, the railroader, the wholesaler, the retailer, the city deliveryman. For instance, a cabbage bought in the market is handled by almost all the men enumerated. A cabbage grown in the back yard is "Food F. O. B. the Kitchen Door." No one needs to handle it except the person who produces it for he or she is also the one who eats it. Suppose that the average back-yard garden produces only a hundred pounds of food, which is a ridiculously small estimate, as a single bushel of potatoes weighs sixty pounds. Based on this the 5,285,000 war gardens of 1918 yielded at least

What are YOU doing?



A POSTER WHICH WAS USED FIRST IN 1918 AND WHICH, AMENDED —FOLLOWING GERMANY'S DEFEAT—WAS ALSO FORCEFUL IN 1919

528,285,000 pounds of food. Actually, as we shall see later, the yield was many times as great. Yet the handling of that vast weight of provender called for hardly a single public carrier of goods. The army of men which otherwise would have been needed to transmit this food from producer to consumer was thus released for other essential labor. It probably would not be possible to figure just how much was accomplished in this manner by the war gardeners of the United States; but it is safe to say that the men thus released for other work numbered many thousands.

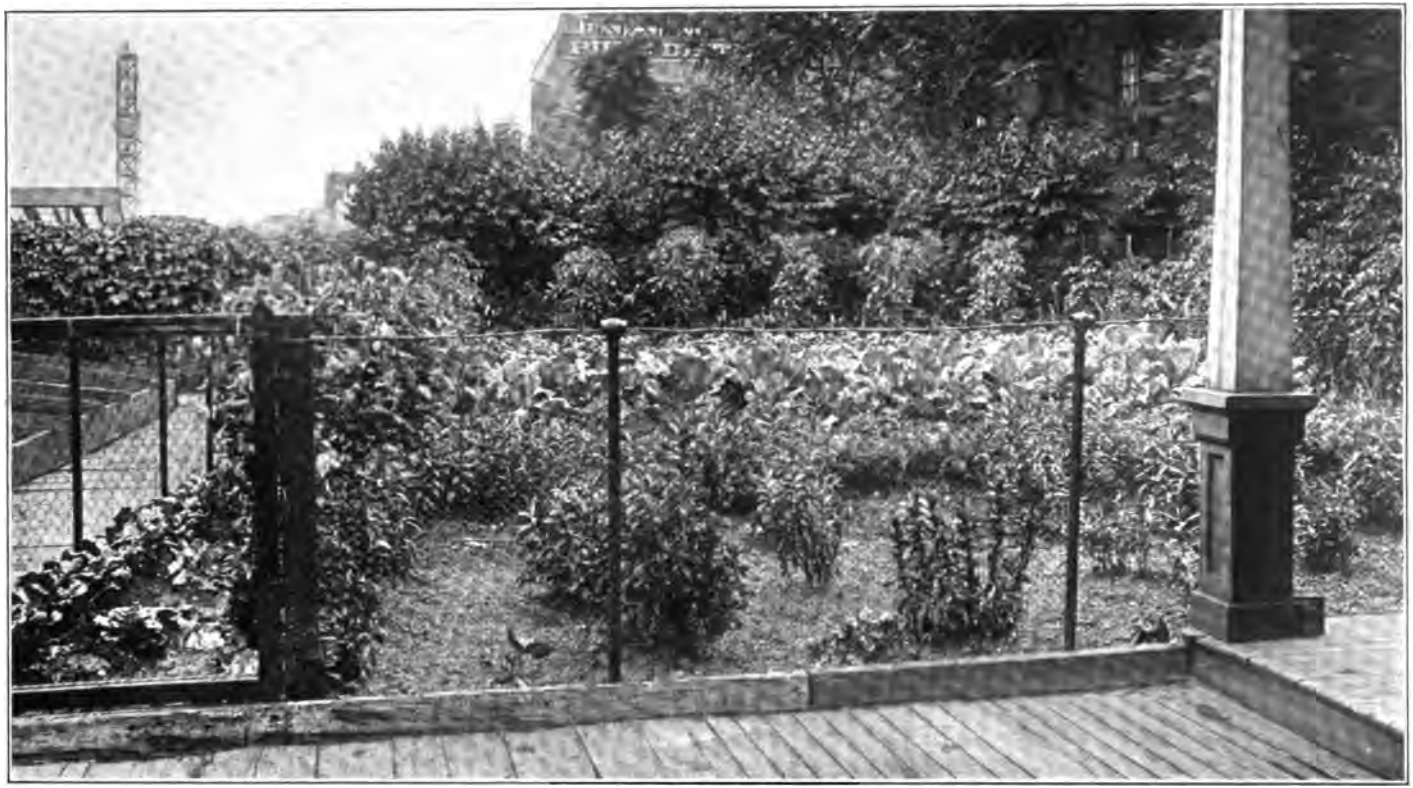
While this conservation of labor was being accomplished there was a concurrent saving in still another way, through the release of thousands of freight-cars, motor-trucks, and wagons, for purposes other than the hauling of food. This saving, too, was most vital. At a time when every freight-car in the country was urgently needed for the hauling of raw materials to be used in the manufacture of munitions of war, for the transportation to the seacoast of finished products, and for hauling lumber and supplies to cantonments and army camps, it was essential that not one foot of freight space should be wasted. War gardening released thousands of cars for these essential needs. This saving, it must be remembered, involved also the conservation of coal and steam-power required in hauling, and prevented, as well, a great amount of wear and tear on railroad tracks and equipment.

To secure all these ends a campaign of education was necessary. This campaign had to be extensive in

range and intensive in method. As an educator of the masses there is no power equal to the public press; and from the start, the Commission, had the cordial coöperation of the newspapers and periodicals of the entire country. Inspiration and detailed instruction were furnished through the columns of the daily newspapers. Articles and feature stories which dealt with various phases of war gardening and sought to stimulate the movement to the utmost were also prepared and sent broadcast.

These appeals soon bore fruit. Requests for instruction in gardening and in the organization of community gardening movements poured in from all sides. To the requests the Commission responded with carefully prepared pamphlets which gave the information desired. In addition, representatives of the Commission visited innumerable cities and towns to confer with the local chambers of commerce or other organizations which were directing gardening campaigns. As a result of this propaganda, war gardens sprang up as though by magic. Gardening came to be the thing.

In order that all this enthusiasm might be transmuted into substantial accomplishment, it was necessary that the army of would-be gardeners should have instruction, for many of them had never before handled a hoe or wielded a fork. Daily garden lessons were prepared therefore for the daily press. These lessons were short and simple, shorn of useless technicalities, but carefully prepared by experts. They were lacking in nothing essential. They gave the fundamentals of good garden practice, which would enable even a be-



NO "SLACKER LAND" HERE

Not a square foot of the vacant space has been allowed to go to waste. Vegetables are growing right up to the edge of the walks and the walls of the surrounding buildings. This home food producer in East Liberty, Ohio, could almost gather his garden products without stepping off the porch.

ginner to make a success of his endeavor. In addition a book was printed explaining how to plant and care for the different vegetables. A copy of this book was free to any one upon request and several million copies have been given away in response to requests. Many copies were also distributed through the agency of libraries, chambers of commerce, trade bodies, women's clubs, banks, manufacturing concerns and the like. Thousands of letters of appreciation prove how helpful were these books.

To encourage the conservation of garden products canning and drying manuals were prepared and distributed through the same channels which had handled the garden books, and daily lessons on canning and drying were sent to the newspapers for publication. The results were most gratifying. Editors everywhere devoted generous space to the articles sent them, including news stories, technical matter on canning and drying, and ample illustrations. Cartoonists, paragraphers, and writers of comics also made gardening their theme; and some of their productions the Commission scattered broadcast, to keep alive the interest in home food production and preservation.

The prose poem, so popular these days, was used to catch the eye and arouse the interest of "city farmers." Here is one, entitled "Let's Dig and Dig and We'll be Big:"

When I go down the village street in my perambulations, most every other chap I meet is asking for donations. They're seeking funds for Red Cross work, for hospitals and motors; they're holding up with con-

stant jerk, all wives and kids and voters. I'm helping out from day to day, with no delays or pauses, tobacco funds, Y. M. C. A. and other worthy causes. I'm told that war bonds I must buy, in twos and fours and dozens, enough to make a full supply for all my aunts and cousins. For war stamps, too, those signs of thrift, I dig into my pocket, to give my Uncle Sam a lift in cleaning up his docket. I'm taxed for building wooden ships with good, old-fashioned rigging, and in my little daily trips I'm constantly kept digging. I dig to pay tobacco tax, and tax for railway travel. I'm always chipping from my stacks; they keep me scratching gravel. But I've no kick for those who come with all their pleas beguiling. It never makes me sad nor glum. They always find me smiling. I know that I'm too old to fight; I can't be caught renigging. So I regard it just and right that I should keep on digging. And then besides, it's proved to me that every man is bigger if he will teach himself to be a willing war-time digger. It's not enough for us to sing about the joy of giving. We've got to dig for everything we need to keep on living. We've got to dig in our back yards for carrots, beans, and 'taters; we've got to dig both long and hard as garden cultivators. So take your trusty hoe and spade and start your spring-time sowing. Just dig and get a garden made and set the foodstuff growing.

In order to catch the attention of the man in the street, several striking posters were prepared by the Commission and placed in conspicuous places in communities in every part of the land. On bulletin-boards, in railway stations, libraries, stores, at factory entrances, and even in clubs, banks and commercial houses, these striking posters met the eye. They were also repro-

ONE OF CLEVELAND'S WAR GARDENS

Working under pressure to produce munitions for the armies did not keep the great industrial centers from developing their war gardens. Cleveland was notable for its success in "growing munitions of war at home." The Xavia garden on East Sixty-third street is here pictured as a typical home munition plant.

duced in newspapers and magazines and thus scattered throughout the length and breadth of the land. Many were even sent to foreign lands in answer to requests for help in stimulating gardening.

These posters were the work of artists of national reputation. One of the posters, most beautiful in its richness of coloring and most striking in its patriotic appeal, was drawn by James Montgomery Flagg. It was entitled: "Sow the Seeds of Victory." At the bottom it bore another of the slogans of the Commission: "Every Garden a Munition Plant." This poster without doubt was a powerful influence in persuading many an American citizen to get into his back yard and help grow some of the "ammunition" needed in fighting the enemy. Another poster, by Frank V. Du Mond, showed the Goddess of Victory. Maginel Wright Enright created two striking posters for the Commission. They were entitled: "War Gardens Over the Top," and "War Gardens Victorious."

One of the posters used by the Commission in arousing the war gardeners of the country to the importance of conserving vegetables for future use, was popularly known as the "Can the Kaiser" poster. Most appropriately this famous poster was the work of a Belgian, J. Paul Verrees, a soldier-artist, who was wounded in one of the early battles of the war while helping to defend his country, and who, incapacitated for further military service, later came to the United States to follow his profession.

One of the most inspiring and satisfactory features

of the rapid growth of the war-garden movement was the spread of the idea to foreign countries. Advice was gladly given to foreign inquirers, the Commission furnishing detailed information concerning the methods which had resulted in such general enthusiasm for war gardening in the United States. In response to numerous requests which came to the Commission from all parts of the world, large quantities of printed matter, including garden and canning books, posters, and pamphlets, were sent broadcast throughout the world.

"Kia Ora," the Maori way of saying, "Salutations to you all," was the greeting which came to the Commission from far-off New Zealand, in a letter of thanks from F. Carr Rollett, of the *Auckland Herald*, for data and material that had been sent. From Buenos Aires, Argentina, on the opposite side of the globe, C. D. Middlebrook, of the Sociedad Anonima La Blanca, wrote a hearty letter of appreciation for posters and other literature sent, saying that the posters were prominently displayed on the occasion of the entertainment of two hundred American bluejackets who visited this South American capital. "Down here we appreciate this class of propaganda," said Mr. Middlebrook, "and we are in a position to exhibit the posters where they can readily be seen by the public. Practically every American home and sympathizer displays them. We will do our part in making this propaganda public."

From South and Central American countries, from Cuba, India, China, Japan, the Philippines, Alaska, Hawaii, South Africa, and from a number of European

Courtesy Minneapolis Journal.

NO WONDER SHE SMILES

Thousands of men and women who had never before the war raised a cabbage or a potato were just as much pleased as is Miss Dorothy Primm, of Minneapolis, over the results of their labor. They found that even amateurs could succeed.

nations came requests for information and instruction on war gardening. Even Lord Rhondda, as British Food Controller, cabled a request for 5,000 copies of the Commission's book on gardening.

No new movement could have spread with such rapidity and been rewarded with such results as were achieved, had it not been for the loyal and whole-hearted manner in which state, county and town committees and officials of all sorts, as well as numerous individuals, coöperated with and supplemented the work of the Commission. With this help the results surpassed the most sanguine anticipations of those who initiated the war-garden movement. The first season saw the planting in the United States, according to the Commission's estimates based on reports from all parts of the country, of approximately 3,500,000 home food producing lots. The reports gathered in 1918 showed the number had increased to 5,285,000 war gardens.

Furthermore, there was more intensive cultivation and a greater proportion of large-yielding gardens in 1918 than during the preceding year. The food value of the 1917 products was estimated at something like $350,000,000. In the second year the value reached an estimated total of $525,000,000.

It is estimated, likewise, that as a result of the garden and canning campaigns, there were put up and stored away on pantry shelves in 1917 more than 500,000,000 quarts of canned vegetables and fruits; while in 1918 the number of such jars is believed to have been fully 1,450,000,000.

Assuredly tall oaks from little acorns grow.

CHAPTER III

HOW WAR GARDENS HELPED

EVERY GARDENER BECAME A SOLDIER OF THE SOIL

WHAT the "three R's" mean to preparation for a life of peace, the three M's become in the conduct of war. These three M's stand for men, money and munitions. In its broadest sense, the term munitions includes everything needed by an army, and of all an army's needs the basic and most important is food.

The quantities of food required by our army are huge. Dietitians estimate that the average man needs, daily, food that will furnish 3,500 calories. The United States army ration allows 4,700 calories to each man, and the unusual exertions demanded of our soldiers make it quite necessary that they have this generous allowance of food. With less they might lack that abundant supply of muscular and nervous energy upon which their very lives depend.

Stated in terms of avoirdupois, the United States army ration is slightly in excess of four and a quarter pounds of food a man per diem. Four pounds of food does not seem like a great quantity. It allows each soldier twenty ounces of fresh beef a day, or its equivalent in fresh mutton, bacon, fish, turkey or other meat; eighteen ounces of flour or bread; twenty ounces of potatoes with proportionate amounts of other vege-

tables; 3.2 ounces of sugar; 2.4 ounces of beans or 1.6 ounces of hominy or rice; and prunes, apples, peaches, jam, milk, coffee, butter, and so forth, in smaller quantities.

When these amounts are multiplied by a million, the total bulks as huge as the Rockies. It means 4,250,000 pounds of food daily, for seven days a week, and for fifty-two weeks each year. To feed an army of 1,000,000 men for one month, according to the quartermaster's department of the United States army, there are required 973,000 pounds of butter, 1,000,000 cans of corned beef, 1,000,000 cans of corned-beef hash, 2,000,000 cans of beef, 2,400,000 pounds of coffee, 3,000,000 pounds of sugar, 6,000,000 pounds of bacon, 23,000,000 pounds of frozen beef, 37,500,000 pounds of flour, and other articles in proportion.

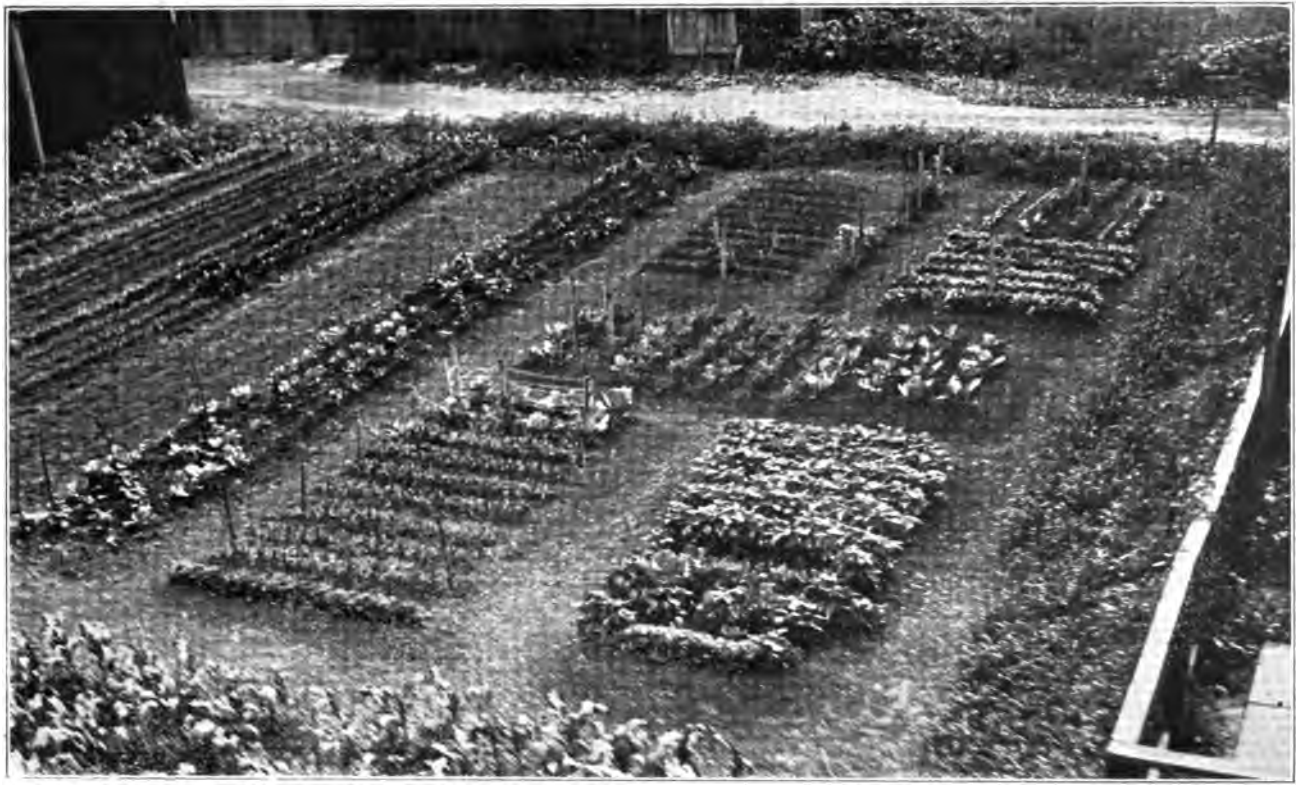
As the United States raised an army of 4,000,000 men, the quantity of food that had to be provided was four times as great as the amounts named or 3,892,000 pounds of butter, 4,000,000 cans of corned beef, 4,000,000 cans of corned-beef hash, 8,000,000 cans of beef, 9,600,000 pounds of coffee, 12,000,000 pounds of sugar, 24,000,000 pounds of bacon, 92,000,000 pounds of frozen beef, and 150,000,000 pounds of flour, not to mention the "and so forths." This huge total sufficed to feed our completed army for one month only.

A year's supply for this completed army required, in round numbers, 46,704,000 pounds of butter, 48,000,000 cans of corned beef, 48,000,000 cans of corned-beef hash, 96,000,000 cans of beef, 115,200,000 pounds

of coffee, 144,000,000 pounds of sugar, 288,000,000 pounds of bacon, 1,104,000,000 pounds of frozen beef, and 1,800,000,000 pounds of flour.

So huge are these figures that to the average person they are meaningless, but that these army demands constituted a terrific drain on our commercial food supplies was evident to everybody. Practically all of this food was food diverted from its accustomed channels. Not an ounce of it went to the feeding of the civilian population which formerly had practically all of it. At the same time, if our allies were to be saved from utter collapse through hunger, and our own country saved from the plight of having to carry on the war single-handed and alone, it was essential that greater quantities of food be sent to Europe than America had ever before exported. After the war ended, and it became necessary, in some measure, to provide for the population of the enemy countries, still larger demands for food for export were to be expected. The very causes that had produced these conditions had, as we have seen, so stripped the farms of men that a food production commensurate with the needs of the situation was an impossibility.

"Those who cultivated the soil could hardly do more than they were doing," said Luther Burbank, a member of the National War Garden Commission, in speaking of the matter. "It was becoming evident that food, which before had been taken as a matter of course, was in reality the foundation of all life, all knowledge, all progress. What could be done? It became



GARDEN OF A CHICAGO AMATEUR

W. E. Babb, a newspaper reporter in the Illinois metropolis, decided in the spring of 1918 that he would give war gardening a trial although he had doubts as to what the results would be. What he accomplished is only partly shown in the picture, for he carried off a first prize of $100. Contrast his orderly looking plot with the weed-covered tract across the road.

necessary to conserve carefully what already had been produced, and then produce more. Agriculture and horticulture had not generally been taught in the schools; the old hit-or-miss plan of farming was all too common; the home garden was neglected and the school garden a novelty. To the call both to conservation and to increased production, the American people have responded nobly. How quickly they have changed their attitude, how splendidly they have made good by adapting themselves to the new conditions! When the war garden movement was started, the problem of food production was on the way to be solved."

Here, then, was the all-impelling, the all-important reason back of the home food production movement. This was the outstanding motive above all others which made the war garden a thing not only to be desired but actually to be demanded. Our allies and the neutrals, as far as possible, as well as our own people and our army, must be fed—this was the cry from the tower-top, this the call of hungry peoples which had to be answered. Our task was Herculean!

There was one great difficulty in the road to accomplishment: the problem of common psychology. It is recorded that when God called Moses to lead his fellows forth from Egypt, Moses replied: "Who am I, that I should go unto Pharoah, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?" Even so did the average American regard the appeal made to him to raise food and save the world from starvation. The difficulty was that the average American, like the

deliverer of Israel, lacked imagination. He could not visualize the collective contributions of millions of back-yard and vacant-lot gardens. He was like the little girl, who, when asked to save a slice of bread to help feed the army, replied: "Papa, I don't see any reason why I should save a slice of bread. It can't feed an army." Her father took her down to the harbor in New York City and showed her a great transport at the wharf, waiting for food to carry to Europe. He then told her that if every little schoolgirl in the United States saved a slice of bread a day, their combined savings would fill eight large transports every week. Her blue eyes opened wide as the great truth flashed upon her, and after that she didn't want to eat anything at all.

In his nursery days, the average American had learned that

> Little drops of water, little grains of sand,
> Make the mighty ocean and the pleasant land.

Unfortunately, however, that infantile lesson had been put away with other childish things when he became a man. The task the National War Garden Commission set itself was to make the average American feel the full truth, the actual force, of that childhood jingle. The truth—the truth that was to set us free—was striking enough. Among the garden records of the National War Garden Commission is the story of a certain garden in Pennsylvania, which was very much like other American back-yard gardens in many respects.

IN AN ITALIAN GARDEN

In New Haven, Connecticut, the side lawn of a handsome home was converted into a food plot. In addition to growing a lot of vegetables, so delighted was the owner that she said never again would her family be without the pleasure which this experience had given them.

In size it was 40x40 feet. The gardener kept a careful record during one entire year of the quantities of food produced in that garden. His figures are as follows:

Beets—25 bunches
Carrots—2 pecks
Radishes—15 bunches
Rutabagas—64
Early peas—32 quarts (pods)
Potatoes—7 pecks
Cabbage—20 heads
Cauliflower—14 heads
Tomatoes—6 baskets
Bunch beans—2½ pecks
Telephone peas—40 quarts (pods)
Peppers—9 dozen
Cucumbers—100
Celery—450 stalks
Rhubarb—10 bunches
Scallions—12 bunches
Parsley—used freely
Dried beans for winter use—20 quarts
Peaches, from two trees in corner of garden—7 baskets
Lettuce—equivalent of 60 heads
Horseradish—all desired
Onion sets—3 quarts
Onions dried—½ bushel
Pole beans—108 quarts

If this production, such as could be had from any ordinary back-yard garden with good soil, were reduced to pounds and ounces, it would be found that this one yard had yielded considerably more than half a ton of foodstuffs. It is reckoned that there are more than 20,000,000 families in the United States. If every family could have a garden, and each garden could yield half a ton of food, the total annual production would aggregate 10,000,000 tons, or almost twice as much in weight as we normally shipped to Europe in a year in pre-war days. Of course it was not possible for each of our 20,000,000 families to have a garden, but with 45 per cent. of our people living in the country or in small towns, and with such vast areas of vacant lots in the larger cities, it would be entirely possible to have 10,000,000 war gardens. These gardens, could they produce at the rate of this Pennsylvania garden, would yearly supply in weight as much food as before the war we annually shipped to Europe.

Such were the possibilities of garden production that stimulated the National War Garden Commission to maximum effort.

Of course, garden food does not possess, pound for pound, anything like the food value of the concentrated foods sent to our allies and to our armies, but garden food is provender, and it is wholesome food. Peas and beans are great meat-conservers; potatoes, both sweet and white, important cereal-savers; and a little larger bulk of many garden products, such as potatoes, will take the place of a smaller quantity of meat or other concentrated foods. To figure out the exact food values of the total products that might be raised in our gardens is of course both impossible and unnecessary. The point is that millions of pounds of food could be produced right in our own yards and in neighboring vacant lots and that by eating these foods we should so lessen the demand on our commercial supplies that these would be sufficient to meet the heavy demands upon them.

To reach the entire population of the United States, to convince one hundred million people of the necessity of gardening, and to convince them to the point of action, was such a colossal task that the Commission hardly dared to hope for the creation of more than one million war gardens during the first year of its activities. Yet the estimated total was in excess of 3,000,000; and in 1918 a very careful canvass set the number of such gardens at 5,285,000.

What these war gardens actually accomplished to-

IN THE CHAMPION GARDEN CITY

This is a small home garden in Marion, Indiana, which boasts of holding the record in the United States for a city of its size in number of war gardens. With a population of only 29,000 persons, it had 14,081 vegetable plots, or almost one for every two inhabitants. Louis De Wolf, chairman of the War Garden Association there, was very active in the work.

ward feeding the army was shown by a careful estimate as to the amount of food which they added to the nation's larder. This was reckoned in 1918 as having a value of $525,000,000. Taking into consideration equivalent food values, it was figured on a conservative basis that our 1918 war gardens grew food equal in body-building power to the meat ration required by an army of 1,000,000 men for 302 days; the bread ration for 248 days; or the entire ration for 142 days. This wonderful saving of commercial supplies made the war-garden movement eminently worth while from this standpoint alone.

Munitions represent only one of the three M's. Money is another. Money makes the army as well as the mare go. The value produced by home gardeners went far to meet the increasing demands for money due to the war. To realize the wonderful financial possibilities of war gardening is almost as difficult as to grasp the possibilities of food production. The products of the little Pennsylvania garden already referred to were worth, according to the records of the gardener, $63.50. That valuation was made at pre-war prices. The same products, in 1918, would have been worth probably half as much again, or close to $100.00. Even if its products were worth only $50.00 that sum would have enabled the gardener to buy, with the money saved by gardening, a Liberty Bond.

Suppose all our war gardens averaged as well, what would be the result? The 5,285,000 gardens of 1918 would have yielded $264,250,000. Actually, the re-

sults were almost double that figure, the estimated value of our war-garden crops for 1918 having been $525,000,000! A half billion dollars! Enough to cover the expenses of the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A., and all other similar war-work agencies for a long time; or to build 500 great ships; or to pay for one-twelfth of the fourth Liberty Loan issue!

In thousands of cases his war garden meant to its owner the difference between ability and inability to subscribe to a war loan. There were more than 21,000,000 subscribers to the fourth Liberty Loan. The estimate of war-garden production means that the money saved through war gardening enabled at least one-fourth of these subscribers to become holders of their country's war-purpose bonds.

Of the three M's there yet remains the third—men. Just as money saved through gardening can be used for the purchase of bonds instead of food, so labor saved in one field can be shifted to another. Specifically, men released from food handling were free for service elsewhere. And the name of the men so released through war gardening is legion. The products of the little Pennsylvania garden already discussed, weighed in excess of half a ton. Had these products not been raised at home, it would have been necessary to bring their equivalent to the gardener's home. He has a family of three. Families of three do not buy food in half-ton lots—seldom even in one-hundred-pound lots. To put an equivalent amount of food in his home, therefore, would have required many trips on the part of a

MEDAL IN COMMEMORATION OF THE WAR GARDEN

In recognition of the war time service of the War Garden a commemorative medal was struck by the National War Garden Commission for presentation to the rulers of the United States, England, France, Belgium and Italy. The illustration at the top of this page shows the obverse of this medal. The lower picture is a reproduction of the reverse.

deliveryman, certainly not less than twenty-five. If every war gardener who made enough out of his garden to buy a Liberty Bond also saved his deliveryman twenty-five trips, the total saving of labor was enormous. The number of persons employed, before the war, solely to wait on other persons, was beyond belief. Soon after the United States entered the war, merchants began to face a readjustment of their business. It was estimated that in New York City alone simplification of delivery and clerk systems would release 100,000 men for service in the army. In the aggregate, war gardening aided to an incredible extent in this readjustment.

Nor are these all the benefits conferred by war gardening. Nothing is more essential to success in war than the creation and maintenance of an ardent patriotic spirit. War gardening fostered this spirit by enabling so many individuals not actually in the army to do something tangible in the struggle. Millions of patriots joined the army of the soil because of their deep love for their country, and their desire to help in the hour of need.

Many of the slogans sent ringing throughout the country by the Commission breathed the spirit of America and of democracy. That spirit spoke from the Commission's posters and other matter. War gardeners were called on by the beautiful figure of Liberty to "Sow the Seeds of Victory." Another slogan, a clever paraphrase on the title of a famous song, told them to "Keep the Home Soil Turning." West Virginia started the message: "Food Must Follow the Flag," which became a household word throughout the United

States. The Marion (Indiana) War Garden Association placed it squarely up to the home food producers in this fashion: "Earn the Right to Stay at Home—Plant a Garden." The honored title of "Soldier of the Soil" gave the home tiller the feeling that he, too, was performing a service for his country although he was not wearing the uniform; and when he was informed that "Every Garden is a Munition Plant" he knew that he was helping the boys over there to fight their battles, for "The Seeds of Victory Insure the Fruits of Peace." The patriotic spirit is contagious and the war gardener helped mightily to spread it.

Of especial value to the nation in its days of need was the habit of thrift engendered and built up into a common trait by home gardening. Before the war, it is estimated, there were only 300,000 bond-buyers in the United States. More than 21,000,000 people subscribed to the fourth Liberty Loan. The significance of that fact is splendidly summed up in a single sentence by Fred H. Goff, president of the Cleveland Trust Company and a member of the National War Garden Commission. "A nation that saves," says he, "is a nation saved." Truly, war gardening is as full of hidden blessings as the widow's cruse was of oil.

WE HAVE A

War Garden

National War Garden Commission

WASHINGTON, D. C.

THE WAR GARDENER'S BOAST

To war gardeners throughout the United States the National War Garden Commission furnished window hangers, printed in green to symbolize growing vegetation. These were proudly displayed in the front windows of several million homes.

CHAPTER IV

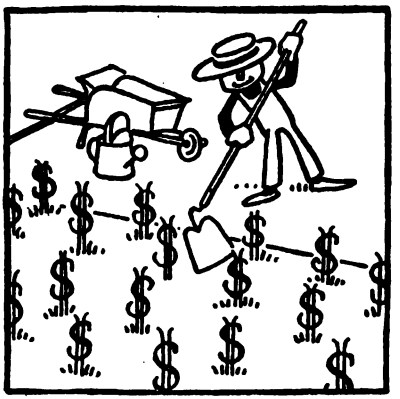
TYPES OF WAR GARDENS

How Different People Planned to Plant and Win the War

ON plaster and ash-filled ground only a few feet above the rumbling subway in New York City was a war garden. From this little vegetable plot in Bryant Park, where land is valued at something like $20,000 a square foot, to the tiny garden along the railroad right of way near the tops of the White Mountains, is a far, far cry. Yet both spots had their war gardens. The one in Bryant Park was a demonstration garden, started solely for educational purposes. Here representatives of the National War Garden Commission preached the gospel of gardening and freely gave helpful advice and garden primers to passing inquirers. On the other hand the tiny garden on the cloud-capped slope of the White Mountains was wholly utilitarian. A patriotic hand had planted it, and loving fingers tended it, in the hope that it would bring forth, perhaps, a few dollars' worth of food; in the belief that its product would lessen, though ever so little, the pressure on our commercial food supplies, from which alone our allies could draw sustenance.

The same spirit of helpfulness, of readiness to "do one's bit" animated countless other Americans. So the war garden was found in tiny clearings beside the

logging camps of Louisiana, in irrigated plots among the arid sands of New Mexico, in the rugged iron lands of Minnesota, and on the open, fertile stretches of the Middle West. Even the lighthouse-keeper at Santa Cruz, California, planted a little garden under the shadow of his protecting shaft. From coast to coast, and from lake to gulf, little areas that had been barren as the desert suddenly blossomed like the rose. Behind each of these innumerable gardens was a heart animated by the desire to serve God and country.



Victory gardens produce dollars

When the National War Garden Commission sent forth the slogan "Plan to Plant and Win the War," the majority of gardens started in response were of the individual type. Like stars in a mighty flag, they dotted the rolling landscape from ocean to ocean. There were few town and village homes that did not have some space available for war gardening. Even in densely populated cities, a goodly proportion of the inhabi-

There is no distinctive type of victory gardener

tants each had at command at least a few square feet that could be cultivated. And urban dwellers by the hundred thousands found vacant lots near their homes which could be utilized for food production. This great host of individuals, each working like his fellows for a common purpose, carried on what, in the aggregate, was a vast farming operation.

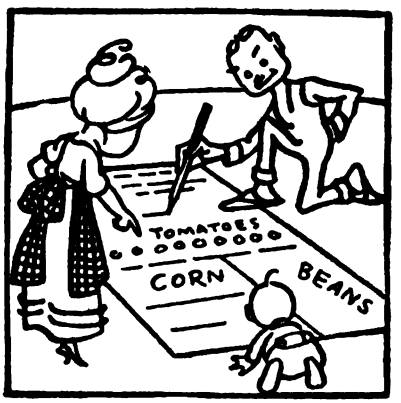
Draw on your back-yard type of bank

In no previous war did women play so great a part as they did in the world war. Not only did hosts of them make munitions in factories, but other hosts joined the men in the production of that other sort of munitions—the kind that grows in gardens. With the women who served as nurses, ambulance drivers, canteen helpers, and munition makers, should also be ranked the women gardeners. In thousands of instances women gardeners cultivated entirely, even to the extent of doing the digging, the home food plot, while in thousands of other instances they shared with the men the task of caring for the war gardens.

Thousands of letters have come to the National War Garden Commission from women gardeners. In order that the fine service rendered by such women may not be forgotten, some of these communications are included in this record. A letter from Mrs. T. J. Ulery,

of Seattle, Washington, whose husband wore his country's uniform, well shows the spirit that animated these women gardeners:

"Thanks for the war vegetable gardening booklet you sent me in the spring," she says. "My husband is in the navy and I have two small babies, but that did not keep me from raising a garden. We have a plot fifty by two hundred feet, and every inch is in something. I wish you could see it. I weigh ninety-eight pounds but I am going to do my bit. Now I wish you would send me your home canning and drying book."



This type of green goods will cure the blues

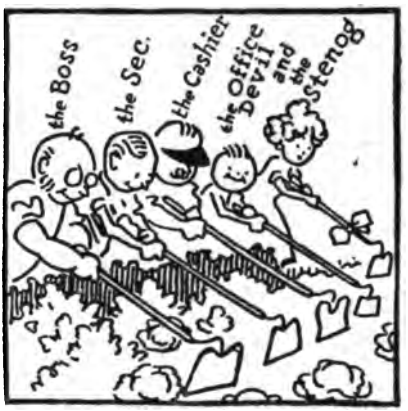
From Mrs. G. P. Dutcher, of Arlington, Massachusetts, came this other typical communication: "I was seventy-eight years old on March thirty-first. I expect to raise what beans I need for a family of three for the next year. I did it last year and did all my own planting."

We see the significance and worth of this woman's service when we realize that a day's rations for one million United States soldiers includes 75,000 pounds of beans, and that we raised an army of approximately four million men! This enormous demand for beans had to be met from commercial supplies that could be increased, because of labor shortage, only slightly above the pre-war production. So we had the army

PIONEERS IN SUMMER HOTEL GARDENING

A patriotic and healthful way of spending their vacation was discovered by this group of school teachers and office workers who early in the summer of 1918 went up to northern New Hampshire and raised vegetables to supply the table of a large summer hotel, "The Balsams," at Dixville Notch. This shows them in front of the comfortable cottage which they occupied. Their three-acre "war garden" was close by. They alternated by twos as housekeepers.

bidding against the civilian population, with the resultant tremendous increase in price. Assuredly this old lady was doing her share toward remedying the situation. And that is exactly what was done by the cultivator of every war garden.



An office type of victory garden

Few of the women gardeners had reached their allotted three score years and ten. Most of our women gardeners were younger, and among these younger women soldiers of the soil none performed a more interesting or valuable service than the eight school teachers and office workers who ventured, like the pioneers of old, into a new country, blazing the way for those who should come after them. Their chosen field of garden effort was the raising of vegetables for a summer hotel.

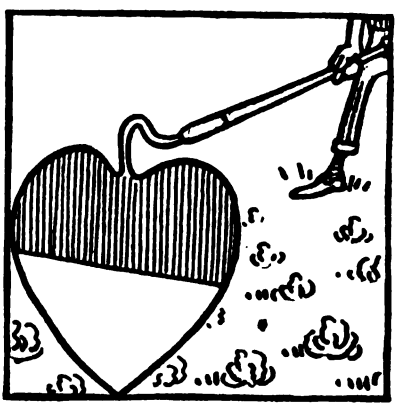
Suit your type of garden to your job

Up at the Dixville Notch, in the White Mountains in northern New Hampshire, is a magnificent summer hotel, The Balsams. It was customary to ship in from a considerable distance the bulk of its vegetable supply.

Last summer the eight young women referred to cultivated a three-acre garden at Dixville Notch, on the property of the hotel corporation. They lived in one of the company's attractive little houses which looks out over a great expanse of country. From Brooklyn, New York, Lakewood, New Jersey, Rockland, Maine, and Keene, New Hampshire, came these young women farmers. They were farmers in more than name; for in addition to cultivating their large vegetable garden, they found time to assist the neighboring men farmers in making hay, cultivating potatoes, and performing other farm labor.

Where there's a will there's a victory garden type

The desire to serve, not the wish to have a good time, led these young women to engage in this work; and so successfully did they perform their tasks that the hotel management promptly arranged to continue and expand the work in future years. Thus, in addition to upbuilding themselves physically in the most gratify-



Put your heart into your own type

ing way, these young women opened the way for others of their sex to perform service at once essential and useful. How useful may be judged when we realize that but for their work it would have been necessary to haul hundreds of bushels of garden-stuff long distances over the steep mountain grades. The car-space and fuel thus saved were applied to the hauling of shells and cannon and other supplies that our soldiers so much needed. If "they also serve who only stand and wait," how much greater is the service of those who labor while they wait.

Every type can have smooth sailing

Since the labor of these young women marks a new phase of food production, in this country, a phase that is certain to appeal more and more to tired school teachers, clerks, and other indoor workers, it may not be amiss to tell in detail of the life of these girls at Dixville Notch.

Their home was in a cozy little cottage, from the windows of which one could look off in any direction on most beautiful mountain scenery. It was situated only a few miles south of the Canadian border, in a region whose towering mountains are pine-clad and gemmed with clear, cool lakes and embroidered with foaming mountain brooks. The girls received regular monthly wages from the hotel, but provided their own

meals, with the privilege, however, of purchasing supplies from the hotel at favorable rates. Two at a time they kept house, while the other six looked after the gardens.

None of these girls had had any previous experience worth mentioning in the cultivation of the soil. Yet they made very rapid progress in the art of gardening.

A type of victory garden to brag about

Their success was undoubtedly due to the fact that they stuck to a few staple crops and did not attempt too diversified gardening. They raised peas, lettuce, radishes, carrots, beans, and other common vegetables. Upon beginning their work they received instructions from the hotel farmer, Henry Bemis, who looks after some of the larger tracts of land owned by the hotel management, which are given over almost exclusively to the raising of hay for the dairies. Such instruction was not long necessary, however, as the young women farmers speedily acquired considerable skill.

Even gardening and haying did not occupy all their time. One rainy day, when no gardening could be done they went to a neighboring farm where there were several thousand bushels of potatoes which had begun to sprout. The visitors started "sprouting" with a will and at the end of the day had averaged twenty-five bushels each. They were told that ten bushels had

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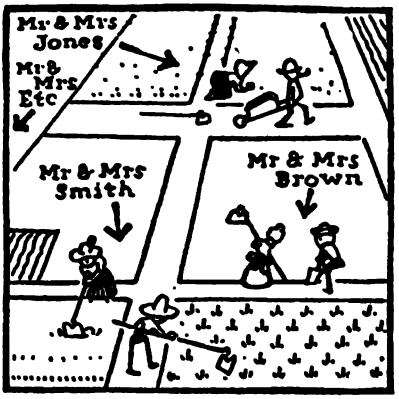
AN ARMY GARDEN AT THE RED CROSS THRESHOLD

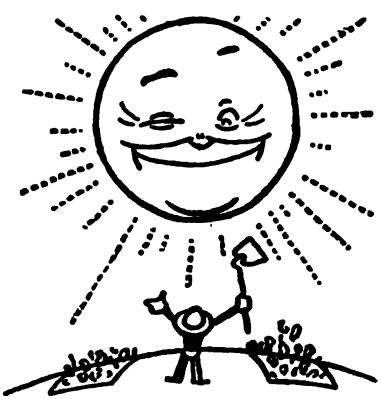
The Camp Dix soldiers carried their farming operations to the very door of Red Cross headquarters. In this picture Major General Scott, Camp Commander, (near center awning) is inspecting the work of cultivation as conducted by Lieutenant John F. Bonner, farm officer, (at extreme left). General Scott took a deep interest in the Camp Dix war garden.

always been regarded as a fair day's "sprout." They continued at this task until the entire lot of potatoes was finished. Then they assisted other farmers whose potatoes were sprouting; for labor had become as scarce on New Hampshire farms as it was on farms everywhere else.



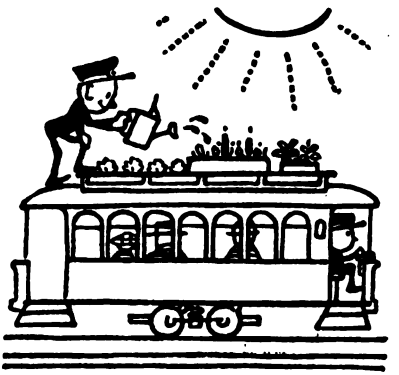
The community type of victory garden

Thus these women not only blazed a trail for their sisters, but proved what thousands of other women are proving in industry—that woman not only is not an inferior workman, but that her nervous make-up enables her to work faster than man. These women gardeners did their share in the fight for freedom—not merely that political equality for which men and women struggled on the fields of Europe, but that greater freedom, human equality. Even to that cause has the war garden contributed materially.


The sun shines for all types of garden

If the work of these young women proved anything, it was that in union there is strength. The strength that comes from union it was found advantageous to utilize in many another

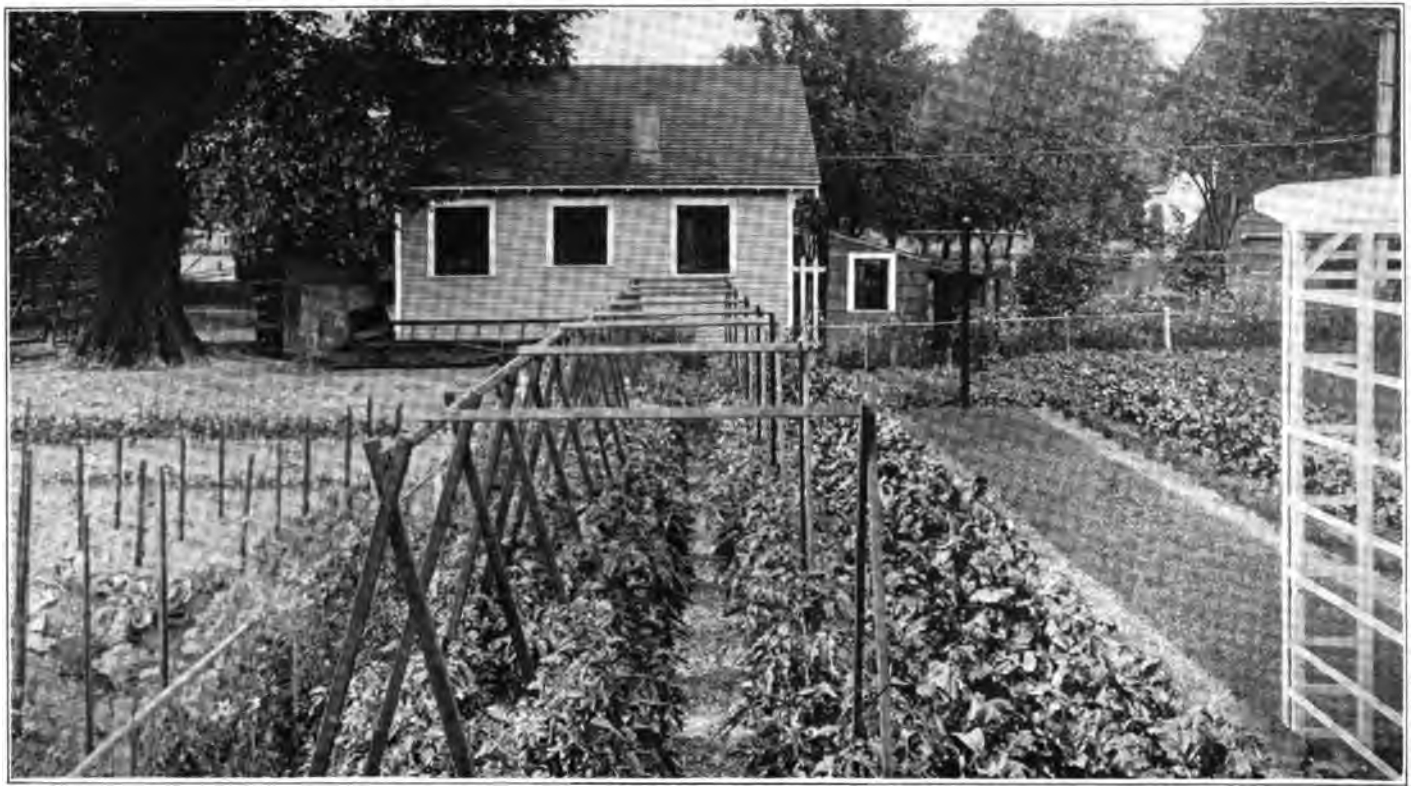
war garden, by operating it on the community plan. Instead of allowing each gardener to till his own land, it was better, where possible, to have a large area properly plowed and harrowed and then allow the gardener to care for his individual plot. The advantages of such community action proved great. The land was uniformly and properly prepared and at small expense. Community gardening made for both better gardens and better communities, for the spirit of emulation at once led each gardener to do his best, while common toil for a common end made for better understanding and better acquaintanceship; and sympathetic understanding is the rock upon which democracy is founded.



The crowded city has many types

Much of the gardening done by employés of factories and business houses was of the community sort. Unused tracts of land lying near mill or shop, and not needed for business purposes, were divided among employés for gardening, after being properly plowed and

The well-worked type involves no doubt



A PRIZE-WINNING GARDEN

First award was given to this vegetable plot in the contest among the six hundred war gardeners of the Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York. Condition of plants, orderly arrangement and cultivation shown were among the factors considered in judging the merits of the various gardens.

harrowed. Often it happened that the land available would not accommodate all the men applying for plots, and in such cases employers frequently leased additional near-by lands and turned them over to their employés. The mutual interests so engendered created a more friendly feeling of coöperation not only among the men themselves, but also between the management and the employés. This was particularly true where, as happened in many cases, the heads of large concerns became fellow-gardeners with their employés. Burns has told us the secret of democracy in a single sentence: "A man's a man for a' that!" When men get together and work together for a common end, they learn the fundamental lesson of democracy. Thus the community war gardening which sprang up in so many parts of the land accomplished more, far more, than the production of so much provender, useful as that strictly utilitarian end undoubtedly was. Unquestionably, community gardening will continue. It will be the peace-time descendant of the war garden.

CHAPTER V

UNCLE SAM'S FIRST WAR GARDEN

How the Boys at Camp Dix Went Over the Top

WITH the mention of the word "war" there immediately flashes across the mind a vision of long lines of soldiers marching through streets crowded with flag-waving civilians; or of those same long lines drilling, wheeling, and maneuvering on the camp parade-ground; or of stern-faced fighters with bayonets fixed charging across a smoke-clouded field toward the enemy's positions. It was most appropriate and fitting, therefore, that the term "war garden" should come to be associated with actual soldiers.

It was at Camp Dix, New Jersey, that the first sure-enough war garden was planted. At that big army cantonment there was begun the first big undertaking in the United States whereby the American army started to help feed itself.

Early in the spring of 1918 the National War Garden Commission, coöperating with the conservation and reclamation division of the Quartermaster-General's office, effected the plans which promptly led to the planting of a four-hundred-acre war garden at Camp Dix, that city of 48,000 or more soldiers where men were being prepared for overseas duty. This was a demonstration garden which was not only the largest but also the most picturesque the country had seen. It was not

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"NOW, BOYS, SHOW 'EM HOW TO HARVEST!"

This is what Sergeant Noel, on the left, is saying to the bean pickers in the Camp Dix war garden, whose work is being inspected by Major General Scott, commanding officer, other army officials and a group of visitors. President Charles Lathrop Pack, of the National War Garden Commission, is standing by the side of General Scott. The young officer behind him is Lieut. John F. Bonner, in charge of the farm.

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE Berkeley, Cal.

only great in size, but in the consequences that were to come from it. This important innovation in methods of supplying the quartermaster's store with part of the food needed, not only had the backing of the officers in charge, but also received the hearty commendation of the Secretary of War. It proved of value in many ways.

At practically all the army camps, there were considerable amounts of land not required for actual military purposes. These plots varied from a few hundred to several thousand acres. There was, however, no fund available under the War Department or army appropriations which could be used for the purpose of placing this land under cultivation and carrying on the work.

At Camp Dix there were 400 acres inside the reservation which could be immediately utilized for food production. Colonel J. S. Fair, assistant to the Acting Quatermaster-General, and head of the conservation and reclamation division, helped to work out and gave his active support to the plan of planting a garden at this place. When it was found that the land could be used and that Lieutenant-Colonel Edmond Tompkins, then Camp Quartermaster, had the men available, the National War Garden Commission secured nine big motor-trucks and rushed over from Philadelphia, thirty miles distant, thirty plows and other garden tools, seeds, fertilizer, and other needed material. The final arrangements were completed on one day, and on the following day the supplies were on hand.

The Commission's demonstration war garden at

Camp Dix was a success from the start. It furnished an inspiration and gave impetus to the work all over the United States; and soon similar plots growing "Food F. O. B. the Mess Tent Door" were under way in a number of other camps. Thousands of war gardeners redoubled their efforts because of the knowledge that the men in the American army were doing similar patriotic work. "Over the Top with the Boys at Camp Dix!" became a new slogan which aroused genuine enthusiasm and put new spirit into the back-yard and vacant-lot tillage.

After the Commission had provided the means for starting the project, Lieutenant-Colonel Tompkins placed it in the hands of Captain E. V. Champlin, conservation and reclamation officer of the camp, and the latter selected as farm officer Lieutenant John F. Bonner, an energetic young officer who was a graduate of an agricultural college and who had also enjoyed a practical farming experience.

Major-General Hugh L. Scott, commanding officer at Camp Dix, took a keen personal interest in the project. He made several trips of inspection over the gardens, accompanied on two of these occasions by Mrs. Scott, to see how the work was progressing and to encourage the young officers in charge. He expressed his appreciation to Captain Champlin and to Lieutenant Bonner, actively in charge of the farm enterprise, and to their assistants, for the excellent results they were obtaining. His interest caused the boys to work with an added will.

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"POTATOES UP! FORWARD MARCH!"

Such was the order of the day at Camp Dix, New Jersey, when the boys began to gather the big harvest which they had raised in the 140-acre section of their war garden devoted to this important vegetable. Part of the land included in the cantonment had formerly been rich farming land. Several thousand bushels of potatoes were stored for winter use.

One hundred and forty acres were planted to potatoes, both early and late varieties; seventy acres to beans; forty to corn; twelve to beets; twelve to onions; eight to cucumbers; five to tomatoes; one to cabbage; and other areas to a variety of vegetables. The land on which the camp was located had been farms, on which there were a number of orchards. These were cared for and the fruit gathered. In addition, about three hundred tons of hay were harvested. The garden even included an acre of broom-corn, which the supply officer in charge of purchasing brooms figured saved many a dollar. The boys, however, maintained that their reward from this particular corner of the garden came from the help rendered in "sweeping on to Berlin."

Aside from the food produced, the Camp Dix war garden was of benefit in other ways. It afforded healthful outdoor work for convalescents and other men who were not physically fit for active military training, but who after a few weeks or months of this exercise were able to go back into the fighting ranks. Colonel F. B. Beauchamp, inspector of the southern command of the British army, who had come to the United States on a tour of inspection of the camps here, pointed out what this form of work was accomplishing for many men in the British army, and how thousands of them were being so benefited by the regular living in the camps and the life in the open that they were able to return to service on the battle-field.

In addition to using convalescents and men not physically capable of service overseas the camp garden

afforded opportunity for putting "conscientious objectors" and alien enemies to work at some useful non-combatant form of labor. Among the first 150 men assigned to the war-garden work at Camp Dix were a number of Germans and Austrians, two Turks, and representatives of other nationalities. Drafted men of this sort, having declared themselves unwilling to take up arms against their own countrymen, were almost without exception happy and contented in their work as food producers. In some cases alien prisoners were transported to army camps to till the gardens. The first lot was sent from Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia, to Camp Devens, Massachusetts, for this purpose. At the camp, under guard, they cultivated a war garden of ninety acres. There were one hundred of these prisoners, most of whom had been taken from interned German vessels.

As a result of the immediate success of the Camp Dix project, plans were made for greatly extending this form of war gardening in 1919. The work had proved its worth as an adjunct to army life. A number of military men who had not approved of the plan at its inception were converted by the excellence of the results obtained and gave it their support. The experience gained in the first year, coupled with the greater demand which it was known that there would be for food, made it desirable that this scheme be carried out on a broad scale. It was realized that it would furnish much relief in supplying the army and the nation with food.

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GATHERING THE POTATOES

This staple article formed the principal crop from the 400-acre war garden which was inaugurated at Camp Dix, New Jersey, by the National War Garden Commission in coöperation with the Quartermaster General's Office of the army. More than 5,000 bushels of the tubers were grown.

Shortly after the Camp Dix war garden was started, Secretary Baker gave the undertaking his hearty endorsement in the following letter addressed to the National War Garden Commission:

The War Department finds much satisfaction in the creation of war gardens at various army camps by the Conservation and Reclamation Division of the Quartermaster-General's office. Food production at these camps has been the subject of some concern with the Department. The large areas of tillable land within many of the military reservations have been regarded as offering potential food production on a large scale, and I feel that the army is to be congratulated that the utilization of this space has now taken concrete form.

Camp war gardens will serve more than one useful purpose. The production of food at the mess door is of great importance in that it not only lessens the army's demand on the usual sources of supply but eliminates transportation as well.

To the National War Garden Commission I extend the thanks of the Department for its quick response to the appeal of the Quartermaster-General's office for coöperation. Not confining itself to mere compliance with the letter of the request, the Commission entered fully into its spirit. At a time when funds were not available through Government channels the Commission voluntarily provided seed, fertilizers, and equipment which made possible the establishment of a war garden of 300 acres or more at Camp Dix. For this generous contribution and for swift action to overcome the handicap of a late start I take pleasure in making this acknowledgment and in expressing the hope that the Camp Dix war garden of the National War Garden Commission will prove an unqualified success.

Thus, in teeming army camps and on isolated mountain-tops, on the wide reaches of the prairies and in sun-splashed openings in the dusky forests; beside roaring factories and in sequestered nooks on which deer and bear peer shyly from near-by leafy coverts, there have sprung up innumerable war gardens. In riding across the country one sees them beside the railroad right of way, in back yards, small and great, on lawns and in open fields, in every conceivable place and of every imaginable size—sees these living emblems that tell, as truly as the tiny Liberty Loan button on the coat-lapel, where the owner stands and what he stands for, because a war garden is a service badge of living green.

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GOING OUT TO MEET THE CROP

As "the man who feeds the army" Col. J. W. McIntosh, chief of subsistence, was deeply interested in the demonstration war garden made by the soldiers at Camp Dix. His interest in the food supply prompted him to go into the fields at Camp Dix and the camera caught him as he helped camp Quartermaster Tompkins pick tomatoes. Col. McIntosh is at the left.

CHAPTER VI

HOW BIG BUSINESS HELPED

Organized Effort to Can the Kaiser

LIKE that young man of great possessions who came to Christ, inquiring, "What shall I do to be saved?" hundreds of men who possessed or represented immense wealth, captains of industry and leaders of big business, came forward in this present-day struggle against pharisaism and demanded: "What can we do to help?" In their desire to back up the government, they were ready to do anything possible to increase the efficiency of either their works or their workers.

Even before the war began, a few manufacturing concerns had started community gardening among their employés, though the number of such enterprises was small. Once the war-time need of food was pointed out, however, business and industrial plants in every part of the country organized their men for garden production.

Happiness has been defined as a by-product of labor. Straightway the concern engaged in the war-garden movement found that it, too, had a valuable by-product, and that was increased efficiency among the workers. It was not alone through the addition of certain amounts of food products to the nation's supplies that war gardening proved valuable. It reacted

on the spirit of the workers themselves. It built up a feeling of good-fellowship not previously existing. It engendered a spirit of coöperation that carried over into the work of the shop. It created that intangible and invaluable thing, *esprit de corps*. It was productive of many good results throughout entire communities, which were reflected in the general financial and social conditions within those communities.

No less marked were the gains from the employers' point of view. The contented workman is the efficient workman; and gardening, by providing better food than can be had in the markets, and by virtually adding to the worker's income, makes him more contented. Money that otherwise would have to be spent for food can be used for the purchase of those small comforts and luxuries that make for added happiness in the home.

Of great worth, too, is the recreational value of gardening. The toiler in a noisy mill, or the worker in a smoky forge or factory can find no avocation, no recreation, that will build him up physically and refresh his energies as will the cultivation of a plot of ground.

Unexpectedly enough, also, war gardening resulted in a lessening of the labor turnover. One striking testimonial on this latter point was contained in a report to the Commission from a busy manufacturing city in the Middle West. "Workers here," said this report, "refused to leave the city to take work at higher wages elsewhere because they had planted fine war gardens and were so proud of them they would not leave them."

WHAT A FACTORY WORKER DID

Here is a corner of a fine war garden, covering in all about an acre of ground, which was intensively cultivated by an employe of the Eastman Kodak Company, Rochester, New York. It was an inspiration to hundreds of other workers who vied with each other to make their plots as productive as possible. Great enthusiasm was shown throughout the entire city in this form of war work.

Moreover, the knowledge that his employer is interested in his welfare inevitably creates a kindlier feeling on the part of an employé toward his employer. When officials of large concerns worked side by side with their men in the factory gardens, as many far-seeing managers did, a sympathetic understanding sprang up that could have been created in scarcely any other way. War gardening gave opportunity for the "personal touch" which manufacturing on a large scale and collective bargaining have almost eliminated from modern industry.

Perhaps these things can best be made clear by quoting a captain of industry. Speaking not only for himself, but also for other leaders of "big business," the superintendent of Foster, Merriam & Company, of Meriden, Connecticut, wrote as follows to the National War Garden Commission, after war gardening had been tried out for a year at his plant:

Besides the material gain, the garden work promoted a fine spirit of democracy and fellowship among the men. Everybody, from the president to the humblest employé, had a garden plot. And officers and employés, working together as they did, found mutual interests and fellowship there. The employés took a great deal of interest in the work and kept the entire ten acres in perfect shape, free from weeds, and well cared for at all times. Owing to the interest manifested and the good results obtained, it will be necessary to secure additional land next year.

Among the large companies which helped their men in this way was the Carnegie Steel Company. Here is

what the superintendent of one of the Carnegie plants wrote the National War Garden Commission:

The plots were taken by men in all classes of employment. Laborers, skilled operators, clerks, and executives—a large number of them without previous experience—went into the work. A great variety of produce was raised. Much spirit and rivalry developed among the gardeners, this being increased by the offer of prizes for the best gardens. In spite of the fact that the river twice flooded part of the gardens during the growing season, two of the prizes were taken by workers in the flooded areas. The general average of the gardens was above eighty per cent., and thirteen of them above eighty-four per cent. Only one was adjudged a failure. The committee of judges was compelled to revisit the gardens twice after the first marking in order to decide on the winners, and even then had to place several of them on a par.

The gardens were not only an assistance to livelihood and a decided profit to the average worker, but were also an inspiration and fascination, as well as a means of pleasure and healthful education and exercise.

From the rock-bound coasts of New England to the far-flung shores of the Pacific, the war gardens of the workers in industry stretched in an almost unbroken line. The lumber camps of Washington and Oregon and the mining settlements of Arizona boasted their war gardens. The iron, cement and motor-car makers of the Middle West had their garden plots. The copper regions of Michigan, the shipyards of Texas, and the roaring mills of the East, all beheld the sudden upspringing of great gardens.

ALL THE FAMILY HELPS

Here is shown an employe of the Oliver Chilled Plow Works at South Bend, Indiana, with the rest of the members of his family, industriously employed in the garden. This company furnished several large tracts for its men, and hundreds of them took advantage of this opportunity to help themselves and their country at the same time.

"Our purpose is to encourage the raising of fresh vegetables at the mills and logging camps of this state and Oregon where employés are engaged in the production of essential war material for shipping and aircraft purposes," was the inspiring word from Robert B. Allen, of Seattle, secretary of the West Coast Lumbermen's Association. C. S. Williams, vice-president of the F. B. Williams Cypress Company, of Patterson, Louisiana, reported thus to the Commission:

We are pleased to advise that practically every available piece of land that we own around the plant is being used for war gardens for our employés. There seems to be a great interest in home gardening throughout this territory. We have never seen the land so entirely and carefully cultivated. Hardly a family is without a garden. Almost every one of our men has a garden. The books you sent were quickly taken and have been of great service to our people. They are now planning a great canning campaign.

One of the most interesting instances of this eagerness to help both the country and its employés, was furnished by the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Company, of Inspiration, Arizona. Before a thing could be planted, it was necessary to dig five artesian wells to furnish the water needed for the two hundred and seventeen acres of war gardens cultivated by the miners in the first year of the enterprise. The land was situated 3,300 feet up in the mountains. The region was arid. The employés were cosmopolitan. Italians, Chileans, Mexicans, Indians, Finns, Swedes

and other nationalities were represented in the polyglot assembly. Few of them spoke much English, and more than seventy per cent. of them spoke no English at all. It was necessary not only to instruct them, but to translate and print bulletins and lesson-sheets in a number of languages.

A garden expert from the Arizona Agricultural Station was engaged to take charge of the enterprise. The double-crop system was employed so that as soon as one crop was harvested another was started. If any war gardener was found who did not take proper care of the plot assigned to him, the ground was taken from him and given to another. A market was established to which the growers could carry any of their surplus product and have it sold for them without charge for the service. Nothing was permitted to go to waste, and the food which could not be used at once was canned or dried and stored for future use. On account of the climate most of the conservation was by the drying process. The amount of food grown was large and the saving in this instance was particularly great because of the distance of the mining center from great supply markets.

Something as to the methods used by other corporations in promoting the war-garden movement among their workers may here be of interest. From Mr. Luther D. Burlingame, industrial superintendent of the Brown & Sharpe Manufacturing Company, at Providence, Rhode Island, comes an instructive report.

This concern opened the war-garden campaign by

posting a notice on the shop bulletin-boards, announcing a chance to serve country and family by helping to meet the serious shortage in the food supply, and informing the men that the company would furnish land, and plow and fertilize it free for those who would raise crops. Cards for applicants were furnished to the clerks in each department of the shop.

The plots were divided into several groups, in order that the men might secure gardens as near as possible to their places of residence. After the drawing, the numbers of the gardens were filled in on the cards. The required requisitions for fertilizer and seed went through the supply department. The supplies purchased were obtained at wholesale prices, the men being charged only enough above cost to pay for the handling and accounting.

To each gardener was given a card which bore his name, address, and the number of his garden plot, to constitute proof that he or any member of his family carrying it had a right to the particular plot designated. These cards were issued for the protection of both gardens and gardeners. Printed on them were the following rules:

1. Members shall keep their plots weeded and as free from bugs and injurious insects as possible.

2. Members shall not throw refuse on neighboring plots, or in paths. After harvesting, lots are to be cleaned, and refuse taken to places provided.

3. Members shall not plant closer than 12 inches from the boundary line. Any one working your lot must show this card.

A gardening club was organized with elected officers representing as far as possible the different departments of the shop and different plots of land. The general administration of the project was in the hands of the shop industrial department, but the gardening club was consulted and asked to pass on many matters which had to do with the satisfactory carrying-on of the work, thus giving them something to say as to what should be done. Part of the plowing was done with a tractor. The land was divided into individual plots each containing from 2,000 to 2,500 square feet; and stakes were set diagonally at the corners of each plot with the number of each plot showing at each corner. At the largest garden center a tool-shed about sixteen by thirty-six feet in size was erected where running water was available and a man placed in charge so that tools could be given out on check. This shed was open from daylight to shortly before working hours each week-day, again at noontime, and from six o'clock in the afternoon until dark. It was also open on Saturday afternoons and to some extent on Sundays. A slight charge was made those who desired to hire tools instead of buying their own.

To supervise the gardens and give general instructions to the men who had not previously had gardening experience, a practical farmer with training in an agricultural college was employed. As at other plants throughout the country the gardens in many cases became family affairs, and all the members of a family took part either in work or in supervision.

A VERSATILE MANUFACTURING CONCERN

In this war garden of the Globe Machine and Stamping Company, Cleveland, Ohio, the shop employes raised a wide variety of vegetables in sight and sound of the shop. The list included cabbage, sweet corn, onions, parsnips, tomatoes, beans, peppers and fifteen other varieties of things to eat.

"As the season advanced," said Mr. Burlingame, "a spirit of good-fellowship and the forming of new acquaintanceships among those who found themselves cultivating neighboring gardens, were features which added to the value of the garden project. It was sometimes found that a laborer working side by side with a foreman could, from the gardener's standpoint, turn the tables, become instructor, and set the pace. When illness prevented some man from working and there were no members of his family to help out, shopmates volunteered and cared for his garden or even harvested his crops for him. Often gardens cultivated by men having had experience adjoined those where the workers were beginners. In such cases the best good-will was shown in giving and taking advice and instruction."

Regular inspections of the gardens were made and records kept. If a garden showed signs of being neglected, a notice was sent to the workman and this tended to spur the food growers on to keep their plots in such excellent condition that there would be no need for criticism. The men took their work very seriously. Some swamp land which had never been cultivated and which was considered absolutely useless for garden purposes was reclaimed and produced excellent results. The largest crop of potatoes in a single garden, twenty bushels, was raised on a lot which the gardener enlarged by digging up land which had been a dump beyond the plowing. A number of prizes which were offered by the company for the best crops both as to size and quality aroused keen and friendly rivalry and

had much to do with stimulating the progress of the undertaking. An exhibition was held in a shed at the factory at the close of the season.

In the first year of this work, 1917, there was grown in 500 gardens covering thirty acres of land, food valued at $10,000. This added to the food supply of the workers 4,000 bushels of potatoes, 254 bushels of beans, 223 bushels of tomatoes, five and a half tons of turnips, more than two tons of carrots, three tons of cabbage, and nearly a ton of parsnips, besides a large quantity of other vegetables.

Similar statistics were gathered by the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company, of Akron, Ohio, as to the value of the crops produced by the Firestone workers on a tract of forty acres. The average value per acre of these crops was $280. The men raised $14,205 worth of food. The total expenses were $3,024. The net profit was $11,182. It was figured out that the men earned on the average almost a dollar an hour for the time spent in cultivating their plots, the exact figures being ninety-four cents an hour.

Gratifying as these financial rewards were, the workers were perhaps even better pleased with the realization that they were aiding in bringing victory nearer. They knew that they were cutting market and grocery bills by raising a part of their own supplies; but they also realized that to win the war, "food must be kept following the flag."

No class of people in the country was in a position to realize more fully the immense value of war gardens

WAR GARDEN DISPLAY IN BANK WINDOW

Hundreds of banks throughout the country assisted actively in the drive for home-grown food, just as they did in the other patriotic calls which the nation made to them. The Paterson Savings Institution, of Paterson, New Jersey, was one of those which distributed garden booklets, furnished by the National War Garden Commission, to its patrons, and held an exhibit of resulting products which attracted great interest.

in another direction than the manufacturers and their employés. This was in the saving effected in transportation facilities. These men knew better than any others the urgent demand which essential war shipping was making on freight-cars. They saw and handled daily the vast quantities of raw materials and finished products which had to be hauled. They knew there was a shortage which could not be made up entirely. They were cognizant also that gardening would result in a considerable conservation of carrier space which could help to fill the demand. If hundreds of thousands of workmen in all parts of the United States were growing much of their own food right near their homes, it required no argument to prove that long lines of cars would be released for other service.

The industrial promotion of the war-garden movement was not confined to manufacturers. Railroads, large insurance companies, public utilities in many sections, banks, and those engaged in numerous other lines of industrial and commercial activity, were equally enthusiastic and active in forwarding the movement. Gas companies opened demonstration kitchens and gave out thousands of books and other printed matter. Water companies in many places throughout the West, where the land required irrigation for cultivation, furnished water free to all those who announced their intention of planting war gardens. Banks which helped so unselfishly and patriotically in other campaigns, urged home food production upon their patrons by handing to them leaflets pointing out the national

need and the pressing importance of this work, and by giving out also instruction books from the Commission telling the city farmer how to proceed.

Praise must be extended to business as a whole for the part it has taken in aiding in the cultivation of war gardens by the nation's army of workers. A list of the concerns which have helped in this way would be practically all inclusive. Among the big nationally known companies which have been especially active in this form of war work are the Oliver Chilled Plow Company, Du Pont de Nemours & Company, the American Rolling Mill Company, the American Woolen Company, the General Electric Company, the United States Steel Corporation, the American Optical Company, the American Cast Iron Pipe Company, the American Steel and Wire Company, the J. I. Case Plow Works, the Universal Portland Cement Company, the Oliver Iron Mining Company, the Ford Motor Company, the Solvay Process Company and the Eastman Kodak Company.

Employés at the various mills of the American Woolen Company planted in 1918 a total of 1,229 acres of gardens; and Mr. William M. Wood, the president of this big manufacturing concern which made large quantities of clothing to help keep the American soldiers warm, expressed his gratification at this other way in which the employés were working to help their country.

As to some of the benefits to the workmen themselves, the moral strength which they gain from their employ-

NATIONALITY MADE NO DIFFERENCE

Here are shown former citizens of three different countries, but all Americans now, who helped through their war gardens to win the war. They are employes of the Oliver Chilled Plow Company, South Bend, Indiana, which furnished land and otherwise assisted its men to take care of their home food needs. These men show by their satisfied look how much they appreciated this help.

ment in this side occupation of gardening, their release from the narrowing and confining work in which they often are engaged, it is appropriate to quote from an article by Professor Irving Fisher of Yale University, a member of the Commission, in which he says:

A laboring man sees his work sweep by him, a peg in a shoe, a bolt in an automobile, and since he is not able to visualize his part in the product, his work ceases to be interesting and becomes drudgery. He wants to shorten his hours; and the employer, whose work is interesting, whose work is his life, cannot understand why the employé is always trying to shirk, whereas he himself is willing to work twelve or sixteen hours a day. The reason is that in one case the instinct of workmanship is satisfied and in the other case it is not.

Here we have summarized in a telling way one of the best possible arguments in favor of the upbuilding, the strengthening, and the continuation of war gardening among the employés of mills, factories and shops. The tasks they are performing in most cases do not satisfy their "instinct of workmanship." They do not finish their day's labor and go home with the feeling that they have taken a step forward, that they have accomplished something which will add to their value to themselves, their families, the community and the country.

A man who is a cog in a vast machine cannot put individuality into the driving of continuous pegs into a shoe; but when he gets outside the walls of the factory into the little forty by sixty vegetable plot he is cul-

tivating under the shadow of the mill, he can put himself into this work. It is for his own good. What he grows there will be his own property. It will go to support himself and his family. How much or how little of it there will be depends upon himself, upon how intelligently and how faithfully he cares for the plants. He takes an interest in watching every development from day to day because he is to reap the reward. This work is his own. It means that he will take a deeper interest thereafter in the work he is doing for his employer. It is only natural that a man should feel a more real concern and show greater pride in doing something where he will share in the profit. It is not in any sense disparagement to a workman to say that he cannot display the same sense of gratification in his regular work.

There is greater diversity in the cultivation of a garden than in most other tasks. It offers, in fact its successful prosecution demands, good judgment and the display of sound sense. This is healthful exercise for the mind, which makes it more alert and more able to grasp and figure out other problems arising every day of the workman's life. Combined with this mental activity is the invigorating bodily exercise than which there is none better than digging in the earth and getting close to nature.

While the reports to the National War Garden Commission show that the methods adopted by various manufacturing concerns which encouraged gardening among their men differed somewhat in detail, as would

THIS IS NOT NEPTUNE!

Joe Borsell, an employe of the Oliver Chilled Plow Company, South Bend, Indiana, was proud to pose for his picture with some of the fine potatoes and cabbages he had raised in his war garden. It is plainly to be seen that some of the company's other workers who had gardens had to show extra fine results to beat this man's products.

of necessity be the case, still the fundamental principles were the same; and the results obtained, chief among them better contentment among the men, were everywhere alike. The Commission feels that no other single phase of its work has been of greater and of more lasting benefit than the stimulus it has been able to give to the wonderful growth of factory gardening. Increased food production by this means is of immeasurable value to the nation, to the community, to the employer of labor, and to the individual. In congested industrial centers it is particularly desirable that every possible relief be given to freight transportation systems; and the raising of large quantities of food "F. O. B. the Factory Door" affords great help in that direction. Business men have seen the advantage of this movement and will continue to encourage and expand gardening among their employés.

CHAPTER VII

HOW THE RAILROADS HELPED

War Garden Activities of Management and Employes

As soon as America became a belligerent the railroads of the country sought to help relieve the food shortage and the traffic situation by encouraging the cultivation of all vacant lands along their rights-of-way. They called on their employés to plant this unused acreage wherever it might be found. To railroad managers the double value to be gained was quickly manifest. The movement would not only add to the nation's food supply but be an important and direct factor in relieving the demands on the carriers for the hauling of freight. The result was that nearly all the railroad lines ran through gardens of growing vegetables which were soon seen flourishing everywhere, along the tracks, around the cosy little watch-boxes of the crossing flagmen and even alongside station platforms.

The railroads furnished the land to their men free of charge or at nominal rental, and in many cases further assisted them by supplying quantities of seed and by aiding in the preparation of the soil. They placed posters in their stations calling attention to this opportunity for patriotic service, and distributed tens of thousands of copies of gardening and canning manuals furnished them by the National War Garden Commis-

ON PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD GROUND

This is a fine example of what was done by many of the employes of railroads in raising vegetables on ground which formerly had been lying idle. The companies aided by distributing garden books among the men, by placing war-garden posters on bulletin-boards directing attention to the value of this work, urging the workers to apply for land, and in various other ways. This scene is at Pitcairn, Pennsylvania.

sion. The Pennsylvania Railroad alone, on its lines east of Pittsburgh, gave out during the season of 1918 more than 20,000 copies of these instruction booklets. The division superintendents and their assistants acted as the distributing agents. In addition they frequently assisted in other ways in helping to arouse the entire local and community interest in this work. Through the posters, displayed conspicuously on bulletin boards, the attention of hundreds of thousands of other persons besides railroad employés was called to the urgent need of war gardens and of conserving food. Local station agents were also a powerful factor in the work. Not only did they encourage the company employés to engage in gardening but they assisted in other ways to arouse interest.

As a sample of what the railroads did in this direction, here is an extract from a general notice, signed by R. L. O'Donnel, assistant general manager of the Pennsylvania Railroad, which was posted along all the lines of that road. This was addressed "To all employés of the Pennsylvania Railroad." It said:

Owing to the interest shown, and the substantial results obtained by employés of the Pennsylvania Railroad in the cultivation of war gardens last year, the Management will renew for the present season the arrangement by which vacant land belonging to the Company may be available to employés for garden purposes, at a nominal rental. . . . All employés who are able to do so, are urged to take advantage of these opportunities by cultivating war gardens this spring and summer, thus assisting our country in the production

of food, and also aiding in a very essential manner to win the war. Employés taking this action will, in addition, be helping themselves in one of the best possible ways. It is for just such purposes as these that the Daylight Saving plan was initiated. Last year the employés of the Pennsylvania Railroad lines east of Pittsburgh raised crops of an estimated value of one quarter of a million dollars. Let us endeavor to surpass this good record in 1918.

Many other railroads deserve special mention for their activity in this line. Among them are the New York Central, the Union Pacific, the Northern Pacific, the Missouri, Kansas & Texas, the Illinois Central, the Atlantic Coast Line, the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, the Chicago, Burlington & Quincy, the Long Island, the New York, New Haven & Hartford, the Missouri Pacific, the Erie, the Boston & Albany, the Delaware & Hudson, the Chicago & Northwestern, the Pere Marquette, the Louisville & Nashville, the Norfolk & Western, the Seaboard Air Line, the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and the Cleveland, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis. The New York, Chicago & St. Louis Railroad Company reported that a number of gardens were planted along its right of way in 1917 and that in 1918 all available land was applied for and assigned for this purpose.

A report from the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburgh Railway showed that more than 2,100 bushels of seed potatoes were furnished to the prospective gardeners, and that the men not only planted these but bought more for themselves, besides buying seed for other

SOME RAILROAD "SOLDIERS OF THE SOIL"

These are Pennsylvania Railroad employes planting potatoes. No class of workers in the country better realized the value of saving transportation by producing "Food F. O. B. the Kitchen Door" than did these men; and thousands of them availed themselves of the opportunity to plant land offered them along the right of way.

vegetables. The resultant yield was 28,000 bushels of potatoes and other garden products to a value of $15,400. The Chicago, Burlington & Quincy reported among other products 3,000 carloads of beans from lands which hitherto had been considered of little value except for grazing purposes.

Plans for the continuation and extension of this work in 1919 have been put into effect by the United States Railroad Administration on all the lines over which it has supervision; and in urging the call of Victory Gardens it coöperates closely with the National War Garden Commission. In response to an appeal sent out by J. L. Edwards, director of the agricultural section of the Railroad Administration, replies have been received from virtually all the regional directors and other officials stating that they would promote the movement to the fullest extent possible. A notable example was the reply from B. F. Bush, regional director of the southwestern region. He said: "I wish to state that the railroads in the southwestern region will again do everything they possibly can in permitting their rights-of-way and station grounds to be used for farming and gardening purposes. During the last season this work was handled on practically every railroad in this region with much success and it will be repeated." Alexander Jackson, agricultural agent of the Chicago, Rock Island & Pacific, answered as follows: "We feel that the War Garden is a permanent fixture in practically all parts of our territory where gardening is possible." C. L. Hoffman, agricultural agent of the New York, Ontario

& Western, sent this message: "I assure you that I shall do all in my power to have the coöperation of all the officials of our roads in an endeavor to increase the victory gardens of 1919 over the war gardens of 1918." Similar evidences of activity were received from many others.

New posters were furnished the officials by the Commission to help carry to the railroad men and the public all over the United States the call for continuing and increasing home food production. These posters were placed in stations throughout the country, in the great city terminals and in the stations in small towns, under a general order issued by W. G. McAdoo, Director General of Railroads. The posters thus officially displayed are regarded as one of the most potent factors in reaching the American public with the message of the world's food needs which followed the signing of the armistice.

CHAPTER VIII

THE ARMY OF SCHOOL GARDENERS

How the Children of America were Mobilized by the Government

AS a factor in education the war garden and its successor, the victory garden, have established themselves in a way that will prove a permanent influence in American life. Through the schools millions of children have been awakened to the value of gardening as a patriotic effort of war time and an undertaking worth while at all times. They have been taught that nature is a generous giver who requires only to be encouraged. They have been impressed with the importance of food production and trained into an army of practical producers. The national benefit from such teaching and training cannot fail to be far-reaching in its effects and a lasting force in the lives of the future men and women of America.

In the development of school gardeners two ideas were given consideration. An immediate increase in food production went hand in hand with the educational value of the work. It was not expected, of course, that all school children would become immediate producers, but it was certain that the great volume of work undertaken in the schools would be of appreciable worth in swelling the total of war time food production and of even greater importance in creating a vast army of future citizens trained to intelligent application of the

principles of thrift, industry, service, patriotism and responsibility. The results have been highly gratifying to those concerned with the undertaking.

For the mobilization of the school children the logical agency was the United States Bureau of Education of the Department of the Interior. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, approached the undertaking with broad vision and keen foresight characteristic of his administration of educational affairs for the Federal Government. Under his guidance there came into being the United States School Garden Army, mobilized with effective promptness and swung into action under the leadership of J. H. Francis as director. Dr. Francis is an educator of note who was drafted into this important work by Commissioner Claxton, and he brought to bear on the enterprise perception and aggressiveness which achieved results of national importance in comparatively brief time.

President Wilson was keenly interested in the United States School Garden Army. His cordial endorsement was expressed in a letter to Secretary Lane which served as the corner stone of the structure and an inspiration to the children of America. This letter was as follows:

February 25, 1918.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I sincerely hope that you may be successful through the Bureau of Education in arousing the interest of teachers and children in the schools of the United States in the cultivation of home gardens. Every boy and girl who really sees what the home garden may mean will,

Photo by Paul Thompson.

ALONG THE EAST RIVER FRONT

Supervised by competent instructors the school children of New York City produced some excellent results in the gardens which they planted in various sections of the city. The very orderly one here shown, with a large number of children industriously engaged, is in Thomas Jefferson Park, 114th Street and East River.

I am sure, enter into the purpose with high spirits, because I am sure they would all like to feel that they are in fact fighting in France by joining the home garden army. They know that America has undertaken to send meat and wheat and flour and other foods for the support of the soldiers who are doing the fighting for the men and women who are making the munitions, and for the boys and girls of Western Europe, and that we must also feed ourselves while we are carrying on this war. The movement to establish gardens, therefore, and to have the children work in them is just as real and patriotic an effort as the building of ships or the firing of cannon. I hope that this spring every school will have a regiment in the Volunteer War Garden Army.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

WOODROW WILSON.

HON. FRANKLIN K. LANE,
Secretary of the Interior.

From the outset the United States School Garden Army allied itself with the National War Garden Commission for the conduct of the work for which it had been organized. This affiliation covered not only food production through gardening but also the work of food conservation through home canning and drying.

One of the first requisites of the newly formed army was that its membership should be reached with technical instructions so compiled as to be authoritative and so presented as to be easily understood. To accomplish this the United States School Garden Army utilized the publications of the National War Garden Commission.

In response to official request, these were furnished by the Commission in sufficient quantities for circulation among the schools of America. The Commission's book "War Vegetable Gardening" was made the standard book of instructions and it reached every school in the land through the machinery of the United States School Garden Army. In similar way the Commission's book on canning and drying was distributed and given official recognition in the educational world.

The satisfactory results achieved through the coöperation of the two organizations was given expression by Director Francis in the following letter to the Commission under date of October 5th, 1918:

My dear Mr. Ridsdale:

I do not feel that I should allow the Garden season of 1917–1918 to close without acknowledging to you the very great service the National War Garden Commission has rendered the United States School Garden Army organization, and telling you that we deeply appreciate the cordial, earnest way in which you have coöperated with us in working out our problem.

For 1919 the work of the United States School Garden Army was further expanded and standardized. Perceiving the value of school coöperation through the Bureau of Education, the National War Garden Commission prepared special printings of the victory editions of these books.

These are for the exclusive use of the United States School Garden Army. On the front cover of the school edition of each book appears a reproduction in the

ONE OF CLEVELAND'S SCHOOL GARDENS

Is it any wonder pupils take a pride in a garden like this? The picture shows the fine state of cultivation on the grounds of Rosedale school, in Cleveland. The combination of landscape beauty with vegetable growing commends itself to general attention.

original colors, of the poster by Maginel Wright Enright, which has become known as the pictorial trademark of the Army. This poster presents Uncle Sam as the Pied Piper of the Gardens, at the head of an army of children bearing garden tools as their weapons. As an introduction the books carry an official proclamation to the schools of America, calling on them for further work in the cause of food production and conservation. In his proclamation Director Francis says:

The food problems of peace give renewed emphasis to the demand for food production. With the ending of the conflict came the necessity for feeding many millions more of the people of Europe. Food Administrator Hoover tells us this country must send 20,000,000 tons of food overseas during the year ending July 1, 1919. To make this possible it is essential that production be carried on to the utmost of our possibilities. The farms have lost a large proportion of their manpower. Some one must take the places of the men who have left the farms and of the women who have gone into channels of industry in which they were not previously employed.

The boys and girls of America must help to do this. There is a mighty army of them, thirty to fifty million strong, who have heads, hearts, and hands, leisure time and patriotism to spare. There are also hundreds of thousands of acres of tillable land uncultivated. The problem is, therefore, to get these two factors together. It is a problem requiring careful, efficient organization. The organization is here, one of the most powerful in the country—the public school system of America. To build another capable of doing the work in hand would require years and cost millions. School gardens and

school-supervised home gardens have received serious attention, but only a negligible part of the work has been undertaken. The school system should and must undertake the work with seriousness and determination and give the world results that are real and adequate.

Superintendents of schools must make their schools a vital, an actual, force in giving more food to the world and in conserving what is produced. They must do this in addition to talking and writing about this somewhat spectacular and highly interesting phase of the school's part in the war. And this is their work, not to be sublet to other agencies who by the very nature of the problem can not solve it but can only contribute to its solution.

Commissioner Claxton and Director Francis are deeply gratified at the success of the garden movement among the school children and greatly impressed with its promise for the future. The interest thus awakened and the practical knowledge thus acquired by the young gardeners, they regard as one of the most important national benefits of the war and one which will be of immeasurable worth in its influence on American citizenship.

CHAPTER IX

COMMUNITY GARDENING

Putting "Slacker Lands" to Work

AMERICAN war gardening, like every other development in life, has gone through a process of evolution. Because the exigencies of the situation necessitated haste, that evolution has been rapid. Contending with the most wonderfully organized force the world has ever seen, it was necessary, since so much depended upon the American war garden, to apply to it the principle of the best organization, and to unify it in order to strengthen it. As a result there speedily came into existence the community garden.

Many are the advantages gained through community gardening. To begin with, community gardening is practically the only method by which all available garden space can be put to work. Genuine community gardening, where all available lands are surveyed and allotted to gardeners, hardly falls short of land conscription. Community gardening played no small part in helping to win the recent war. To get enough food to win, the Allied peoples had to utilize every possible garden spot. In America back-yard areas were readily worked by patriotic owners. The enormous areas of "slacker lands," idle, vacant town lots, could not be put to work without considerable difficulty.

At the very least, the owner's permission had to be

secured before a lot could be farmed; and the average man was either too diffident or too lacking in initiative to secure such permission. On the other hand, the average lot-owner did not care to be repeatedly annoyed by requests from various individuals for the use of his idle lands. Both of these difficulties were obviated through real community gardening. The lot-owner dealt with known, responsible representatives of the gardening organization and had to give his consent but once; while the would-be gardener, far from having to seek a plot, was assisted to find one.

Community gardening is also important in that it effects a saving of labor. In preparing the land, for instance, a team of horses or a tractor can plow a large number of gardens in one day. Where the ground is in large plots, a team can readily prepare one acre in a day. One acre will contain slightly more than twenty-one gardens each forty by fifty feet—a good size for a family plot. By plowing the tract with a team, the cost to each of the twenty-one gardeners is small. To dig by hand a plot forty by fifty feet, particularly if manure is to be turned under, requires many hours of hard labor. If the gardener has at his command for gardening no time other than the after-work hours of the evening, it will take him several days merely to get his seed-bed prepared.

Again, when a group of people are together cultivating a large plot of land, they can often purchase their supplies, including fertilizer, implements, and seed, at wholesale rates, and thus effect a considerable financial

PLANTING A COMMUNITY GARDEN

Jackson Heights, New York, a community of 600 families, all residents of apartment houses, contributed 200 gardens to the war-garden campaign of 1918. Here a group of gardeners are seen preparing the land which has been divided into individual plots, each measuring twenty by fifty feet. Joint arrangements were made for watering; jointly owned sprayers were used to fight insects and blight; and a "vigilance committee" which included all the gardeners took turns in protecting the plots from petty thefts and depredations.

saving. One implement will often serve for two or more gardeners, the gardeners arranging to use it at different times. Employés of factories who have worked together in this way have found the community system of much benefit. Other groups too have found it equally helpful.

Community gardening also makes it possible for expert supervision to be provided. A group of scattered individuals would probably find it difficult to engage the services of a skilled gardener to help them in their planting and cultivating. At slight expense to each person involved, a community group of gardeners can employ some expert to look over their gardens once or twice a week, or as often as is found necessary, and to guide them in all problems of cultivation.

Some groups of community gardeners may be fortunate enough to have among them a man trained in gardening, who is willing to give them the benefit of his experience without charge. In other cases it may be necessary to pay the supervisor in some way for his instruction. In any event, whether the community group possesses a trained gardener or not, all the members will be able to gain a certain amount of benefit from the experiences of their fellows. Each will possess some bit of information which will be helpful to the others.

Another gain to the community workers is the friendly rivalry which is aroused by close contact with fellow food producers. Each acts as a pacemaker to the others. Each strives to make his plot "the best." He begins by aiming to keep his garden freer from weeds

than his neighbor's. This means that he gives it better and more intensive cultivation and in so doing he is certain to increase his yield.

"Well, John, how many bushels of potatoes do you expect to get off your lot?" is the question which one gardener asks of his side-partner.

"Oh, I think I'll have five bushels," is the reply.

"Well, I'll bet you a good cigar that I beat you by a bushel," is the friendly banter.

"You're on!" And so it goes.

Each of them turns to and digs a little harder than he did before. Then darkness overtaking them, they walk home together discussing the ways of bugs and the wherefore of wilt and blight.

The value of such good-natured encouragement and cheer is not to be taken lightly. Always this marching forward together, with a brother's hand on the shoulder, has made the work of life easier and has added to the output of the workers.

In community gardening the question of organization is always an important one to be considered. This is true no matter what the size of the undertaking, whether it includes the working out of plans for an entire city or for a single group of workers in one large plot. In starting a new enterprise of this sort it must be known how much land is available for cultivation, the location and character of the land, the kind and quantity of manures and fertilizers readily procurable, what skilled directors can be secured, and the probable number of gardeners.

BOY SCOUTS RAISED THE FOOD

The menu of the luncheon given by the Kiwanis Club of Marion, Indiana, to celebrate the city's achievements in a war-garden way, was made up almost exclusively of products grown by the Boy Scouts and newsboys in their plot. Most of the decorations, too, came from the gardens.

When the problem is being worked out, whether for the first time or for a realignment of forces and apportionment, an inventory of the town's gardening resources should be taken. A survey for this purpose can be made by existing agencies, or a special force or committee can be appointed for the purpose. A complete community survey in a town should include all lands within the district, private yards as well as vacant lots. The Chamber of Commerce, the Board of Trade, or the Civic Club is naturally the nucleus for such an effort; but the school board or a church or political club can conduct the work just as effectively. The local Council of Defense, the Mayor's War Committee or a similar organization should help. Through these agencies communities in all parts of the United States were intensively organized for the war-garden campaign conducted in 1917 and again in 1918.

When it is known that there is such united effort back of a movement, it gains in strength and prestige and there is greater stimulus to the individual worker. People will enter with more vim and enthusiasm into a task which has the backing and support of all their fellow-townsmen. Public meetings should be held to enlist interest and to secure more general coöperation. At these meetings there should be addresses by some of the leaders in community thought, in addition to discussion of the work by those who are more directly concerned with its operation and guidance.

In making a survey of the available garden space in a city or town, there are certain well-established meth-

ods of procedure which have been found most helpful. Survey forces should be selected, one for each district in the community. Each should have a leader and assistants. In many successful surveys these forces have consisted of senior classes in high schools, of Sunday school classes, of troops of older Boy Scouts, or of other boys. A certain day was selected for the work and this fact well advertised through the newspapers and by announcement in other ways. Large-scale maps showing the different parcels of land simplified the work. Each leader, with his assistants, was made responsible for a certain district. Then cards were prepared for the information as gathered. On these cards questions similar to the following were printed:

1. Name, address, and telephone number of landowner.
2. Whether land is a back yard or vacant lot.
3. Location of plot.
4. Approximate area in square feet.
5. Condition of the plot.
6. Whether owner will cultivate it or rent or lend it.
7. On what terms and conditions owner will rent or lend.

Other inquiries as to the amount of fertilizer available at different points, the quantity of seed likely to be required, also the demand for tools and other supplies, usually are made at the same time. With all these cards filled out and arranged alphabetically, the committee is in possession of a complete and comprehensive survey of all the garden space available in the

"PAPA, SEE ME HOE?"

With the children to inspire and help them in many instances, employes of industrial and manufacturing concerns all over the United States tilled and cultivated their individual and community gardens. Large tracts of land were divided into small plots. These are a group of such workers at the General Electric Company, Schenectady, New York, which gave to its men for garden purposes a large piece of river-bottom land which previously had grown nothing but weeds and marsh grass.

community. Meantime, the committee can receive applications from those desiring gardens, and assign convenient plots as soon as arrangements can be made with the owners. Thus it is possible, with comparatively little difficulty, to provide for the working of every foot of available garden land in the community.

In the gardening itself there should likewise be coöperation. In every town may be found retired farmers or experienced truck growers or a county agricultural agent; and arrangements should be made with some such trained worker to give advice and instruction as to selecting the crops best suited to the soil and as to the details of planting and cultivation. Where such individual is not available, sometimes it is desirable to raise a fund that may be used to hire a garden expert to supervise the work. Where possible, the cost of supervision should be borne from a general fund raised by the organization in charge. If this is not practicable, the individual gardeners should pay it in proportion to the size of their plots. The supervision should extend over the entire gardening season.

A group of gardeners should be organized just as any other association is organized, with its executive head and its directing committees. Various problems are bound to come up each season, and these can be handled better through committees than if the individuals themselves or a few of them attempt to solve them. The executive head should have general supervision of the work and for this reason should be, if possible, some person who is familiar with gardening.

Committees should arrange for purchasing seed, fertilizers, and other necessary supplies for the entire group. This coöperative spirit will save time and money to all concerned and will bring better results. Reduced rates usually can be secured when garden supplies of any sort are bought in considerable quantities.

In dividing a large tract into a number of individual plots, it should be remembered that an average size of forty by sixty feet is about as much as is needed for one family. This should give an ample supply of vegetables not only for summer use but to provide a surplus for canning and drying purposes and for winter storage. After a large piece of land has been divided and allotted, it must be understood that for garden purposes the lot assigned is the property of the person or family to whom it was given, and it should be protected as such. Each plot should be numbered. In assigning plots the fairest way is by drawing numbers.

As a specific instance of organized community gardening, the story of garden production in Marshalltown, Iowa, in 1918, is of interest. Marshalltown is a city of approximately 20,000 people. Mayor S. H. Reilly, sensing the crisis in the food situation, called upon the county agricultural agent to determine the amount of space within the city that could be put into gardens. The county agent's survey revealed a fine farm within the city limits, for the aggregate area of the unused vacant lots which could be put to work exceeded seventy-five acres. The county agent found, moreover, 300 tons of stable manure suitable for fer-

RAISING "FOOD F. O. B. THE FACTORY DOOR"

While the smoking stacks indicated that the manufacturing plants were busy turning out the ammunition needed to win the war, the industrial workers were also turning vacant tracts of land into food "munition plants." This scene at the General Electric Company's works at Schenectady, New York, shows land being prepared for the men, more than 1,500 of whom planted gardens on the area provided them for this purpose.

tilizer which was going to waste. This was enough to provide four tons for each acre. The survey completed, arrangements were speedily made with the owners whereby the unused lands could be put to work.

The county agent's survey also revealed things other than land and fertilizer. He discovered that many 1917 gardens had been failures because the gardeners were ignorant of agricultural principles. They had tried to raise vegetables in soil not suited to them, and they did not understand cultural methods. Among the residents of Marshalltown were a number of retired farmers. Like Cincinnatus, called from his plow to become a public servant, these farmers were called from their retirement by the Mayor and drafted for public service. They were made garden supervisors for the city. Each was appointed to oversee the work in several blocks and to make sure that the gardens were properly planted and well cared for. In order that seeds might be assured to rich and poor alike, a public subscription was taken to provide money for their purchase. Thus Marshalltown's gardens, like Mrs. Fuzziwig's smile, were both vast and substantial.

To organized community effort was due a large part of the success of the war-garden movement in the United States. Without such help it is certain that the city farming plan never could have attained the overwhelming success with which it has met. The generous thanks of the nation are due the loyal and self-sacrificing local committees and associations which gave of their time and their energy to carrying through the plans which

resulted in popularizing home gardening. War-garden associations were created to arouse people to the need of the work, to get them started, and to give them guidance and assistance as they proceeded. The coöperation in this community effort came from many sources. Officials of all sorts, almost without exception, gave the movement their endorsement and support and frequently served on the committees while prominent individuals showed equal patriotism in their desire to see vegetables grow where none had grown before.

That the war-garden associations thus formed will be permanent bodies, or continue as committees of the local chambers of commerce, boards of trade, or other bodies, is assured. So excellent has been the work accomplished in this organized way that community effort to aid home food production must continue. With the knowledge and experience already gained, these local committees should become more and more a factor in helping to solve food problems as they arise. Their purpose and their power doubtless will expand; and they will become community centers serving for the discussion and initiation of other methods of food production.

CHAPTER X

COÖPERATION IN GARDENING

Unity in the "Second Line of Defense"

FORTUNATELY the movement to coördinate gardening activities in America, from the outset, met with sympathetic response. Thanks to the loyal coöperation accorded the National War Garden Commission, there was never any question of the success of the garden campaign. Such question as there may have been was merely as to the extent of that success. At no time was there hesitation on the part of those enlisted in the army of the soil as to carrying out the suggestions made to them. In a spirit of loyal and hearty coöperation organizations of all sorts and individuals of all classes throughout the United States worked with the Commission to overcome every obstacle that threatened the success of the food-production campaign.

Merely to tabulate the names of the various clubs, committees, and individuals who helped in this movement would require a volume. Such a list would include hundreds of state, county, and local organizations which through their officers, committees, and branches stimulated the interest of their own members and of others in war gardening. It would contain the names of hundreds of chambers of commerce and other trade bodies; city and county officials; mayors and

postmasters; school superintendents and college instructors; superintendents of park departments and health officers; women's clubs and home demonstration agents; insurance companies and railroads; lumber and mining companies; banks and business houses; commissions for beautifying cities and tenement-house inspection officers; lighthouse-service supervisors and bureaus of municipal research; public libraries and church societies; ministers of the gospel and leaders of boys' clubs and many others who were able in various ways to coöperate in spreading the message and in rendering active assistance in getting the vacant places of our cities and towns to work growing food. This service was given in both the production and the conservation campaigns of the Commission.

This coöperation took many forms. In some cases it was of an active and constant character, beginning with the start of the drive to get the war gardeners lined up in the army of the soil and continuing until the last tomato was pulled and the final potato dug; or until the last canned or dried vegetable had been placed on the pantry shelf and the final prizes awarded. In other cases it consisted merely of the distribution to interested parties of a supply of the Commission's gardening or canning and drying manuals, with a word to each home food producer wishing him success in his patriotic work and praising him for his undertaking. More than 4,000,000 of the Commission's books on gardening and canning and millions of its bulletins and leaflets were given interested persons in 1918.

A POLYGLOT ASSEMBLY

Employes of a dozen nationalities were included among the war gardeners of the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Company, in Arizona. It was necessary to print bulletins and instructions in several languages. The company sank five artesian wells to water the arid land which was more than 3,000 feet above sea-level.

Libraries all over the United States gave most generous support to the work of the Commission. Many made special displays of books on gardening. They placed posters on their bulletin-boards or in other conspicuous places, calling the attention of readers to the need for food and informing them that gardening books and canning manuals could be had for the asking. "The supply you sent us is exhausted, and the demand continues," was the characteristic word the Commission received from a large number of libraries to which consignments of the books had been shipped.

In some cities and towns the work was carried on merely by the popular sentiment in favor of war gardens which was stirred up by appeals in the press and other publications. In many places, however, war garden associations were organized to guide and direct the movement, or voluntary committees undertook to perform this service. The leaders in many cases were familiar with methods of procedure and required little assistance. As a rule, however, they were glad to receive publications giving them detailed information as to how to plan and carry on their work. Again they were pleased to receive instruction books on gardening which they could distribute among the numerous applicants, and this was true even in cities and towns where it was possible to secure the services of paid agricultural experts to take charge of the technical end of the campaign.

Nowhere did the Commission receive more loyal support and hearty coöperation than from the public

press. Closely in touch with conditions the world over, newspaper editors understood, as perhaps many others could not understand, the gravity of the food situation. In their endeavor to do their share, they gave generously of their news space. Particularly was it necessary to get the appeal for home food gardens before the dwellers in towns, especially in the larger centers of population, for there food was most needed, and there people were least likely to take upon themselves the duty of cultivating the small plots of land at their disposal. Practically all such Americans were reached by the Commission through the newspapers. In fact, practically all Americans were reached. News stories were prepared by the Commission's publicity bureau, setting forth the facts as to the world food situation, and these articles were placed in the hands, not of a few editors, but of hundreds and hundreds. Not only were most of these news stories freely printed, but often they were also prominently featured in such way as to emphasize the message they contained.

After the need of gardening had thus been sufficiently impressed upon the mind of the public, the Commission's staff of experts prepared daily lessons in gardening, which were sent to a great number of newspapers. Hundreds of leading newspapers, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, carried these daily lessons. The Philadelphia *North American*, to mention only one of many large city newspapers, printed a garden lesson daily for many weeks, publishing it on its front page and displaying it in a special box to attract attention.

These lessons began with the preparation of the soil and the sowing of seed in the house for early vegetables, and dealt with one or more vegetables daily, setting forth in simple language the proper cultural methods for the vegetables in question, and pointing out the diseases and enemies of the particular products under discussion, together with methods of combating them. Though simple in language and shorn of all useless technicalities, these daily gardening lessons lacked no essential cultural directions; and even a beginner could have become a successful gardener by following carefully the directions given.

The publicity campaign did not end with telling gardeners how to raise vegetables. As soon as the garden season was well started, appeals were made through the newspapers for the conservation of all excess garden products. The necessity for such conservation was first pointed out, and then methods of canning and drying garden products and fruit were set forth simply and completely. These publicity campaigns in the public press went hand in hand with the issuance of the Commission's various books, which were offered free to any one upon request.

Despite the wonderful response of the public to appeals to raise garden products, it was apparent that the need for food increased rather than decreased, because production so constantly fell off in Europe. The constant dripping of water will wear away even the hardest stone, and the Commission believed that the endless repetition of the garden appeal would

finally move even the most indifferent reader. For this reason its publicity campaign did not end with the gardening season. News stories and garden statistics of all sorts were gathered by the Commission and given to the press. These stories included accounts of the work of individual gardeners, of garden clubs, of communities, and of the organized gardeners in great industries. Likewise the Commission gathered together thousands of cartoons and funny stories and jokes about war gardens and war gardeners, and issued books of these humorous items. The press reproduced this matter the country over and in this way the funny-bone of America was tickled with the garden idea. The Commission's publicity work was not confined to the daily press. Feature stories were supplied to many magazines and periodicals as well as to the magazine sections of Sunday newspapers. These articles were more pretentious than those prepared for the dailies. They aimed not merely to be authoritative but to have literary quality as well. They dealt with gardening from many different points of view, but always the lesson was conveyed that more food was needed and that it would have to be raised by the average American, irrespective of his vocation. With these magazine articles, and with many of its newspaper stories as well, the Commission supplied illustrations. Its agents had secured hundreds and hundreds of interesting photographs showing different phases of garden work in almost every portion of the country. These pictures, portraying war gardens from the arid sands of the

DOWN IN "THE YARDS"

Gardens were grown in thousands of places right by the sides of the railroad tracks, close by the shops and round-houses and up to the very edge of station platforms. Land along the right of way was furnished to employes free of charge or at nominal rental. Here are seen fine examples of such cultivated areas.

Southwest to the cold mountain slopes of the Northeast and from the rocky coasts of the north Atlantic to the sandy beaches of the Pacific, brought home to every one who saw them the idea that everywhere, in all sorts of places, people of all kinds were toiling to produce food. The moral, "Go and do likewise," was too obvious to be missed.

Whatever would attract attention to the need of gardening, or help the gardener with his work, or assist in putting to work the large areas of "slacker lands," the Commission tried to portray by word or picture in the pages of the daily press, the weekly magazines, and the periodicals of less frequent publication. It stood ready to furnish, and did furnish, gardening and conservation matter of any sort to any one who requested it. Service was the motto of the Commission, and that service was well repaid in the splendid response of the American people to the appeal for gardens.

CHAPTER XI

WAR GARDENS AS CITY ASSETS

A Thing of Beauty Is a Joy Forever

EVERY city aims to be as prosperous and progressive as possible and nowadays most people realize that the city beautiful is also likely to be the city commercially worth while. Probably no other one enterprise will add more to a city's beauty than gardening. Gardening, therefore, has double value. It both enriches and beautifies. By the same token it develops civic pride and community spirit.

For these reasons any community should delight in being called a "garden city," whether the name is applied literally or merely in a figurative sense. One result of the war-garden movement is that practically any American community can truthfully be designated by this term.

It is fortunate indeed that this is true. Unity of thought, of action, of ideals, is the crying need of the hour in America. United, we stand; divided, we fall. Probably nothing is more potent as a factor for building up community spirit than gardening, particularly community gardening. A link to bind men together is gardening. It creates common interests. It unites all hands in the common end of producing food. Rubbing elbows in their garden patches, lawyers and laborers, tradesmen and housewives, speedily discover that they

have much in common. One of the things they have in common is their interest in their community; for each wishes to see it progress.

If the democracy of a nation depends upon the democracy of the individuals who compose that nation, then assuredly the war garden is a forge that is daily strengthening the links in our chain of democracy. Our soldiers, shoulder to shoulder in the trenches, learned, that, whatever their respective stations in life, they are brothers. In a heat a little less intense, but none the less sufficient to weld the strongest souls, our gardeners, too, have fused into a solid unit. Link by link the chain of our democracy has grown stronger.

With it has grown our civic pride—the pride of each community in the progress it is making. One of the progressive things cities are proud of to-day is the extent of their war-garden activities. Just as different communities aimed to be the first "over the top" in a Liberty Loan campaign, and to secure the flag which spoke of patriotic duty performed, so they have been anxious to excel in the number of war gardens they have planted and in the amount of food they have raised to help the boys "over there."

The National War Garden Commission has received from hundreds of cities and towns throughout the United States expressions showing how proud they are of their war-garden records. Typical items of this enthusiasm are these: "Every bit of available land is being cultivated;" "There is scarcely a home here without a war garden;" "All back yards and vacant

lots are being planted;" "We believe we have the best war gardens in the United States." Each city wanted to make a record in food production. It is through rivalry of this sort that cities progress.

War gardening, again, is an asset to any city in that it adds to that city's material wealth. All food grown adds just so much to a city's wealth. In the first place gardening gives the individual more money. By planting a home garden he reduces his own expenses, saving many dollars on his market and grocery bills. Whether he saves and invests this money in some local enterprise, or spends it for necessities or even luxuries, the community benefits. The money goes into houses and lots, into automobiles, books, furniture, pianos, clothing, into everything, in fact, that modern man needs for his comfort and happiness. Thus while he is helping himself, he is also helping the merchants and the tradesmen of the city. He is adding to his own and the community's resources.

The financial gain to a city from the war-gardening enterprise is strikingly revealed by figures on the amount of produce raised. A few cases will be illustrative. For instance, Indianapolis estimated the value of its war-garden crop in 1918 at $1,473,165, an increase of more than $600,000 over the previous year. Denver placed its yield at $2,500,000 and Los Angeles at $1,000,000. The figures for a few other cities were as follows: Minneapolis, $1,750,000; Washington, District of Columbia, $1,396,500; Grand Rapids, Michigan, $900,000; Salt Lake City, Utah, $750,000;

MIDST TOWERING SKYSCRAPERS

In Bryant Park, New York, in the heart of the nation's throbbing metropolis, there was planted a demonstration war garden, and a little garden house was erected which served as a distributing center for literature of the National War Garden Commission. Formal ceremonies were held at the time of the dedication of the building.

Louisville, Kentucky, $750,000; Worcester, Massachusetts, $750,000; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, $500,000; Dallas, Texas, $300,000; Scranton, Pennsylvania, $450,000; Rochester, New York, $350,000; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, $250,000; Burlington, Iowa, $250,000; Newark, New Jersey, $160,000; New Orleans, Louisiana, $125,000; Atlanta, Georgia, $100,000.

Another gain which comes to a city from war gardening is the improvement in the appearance of the place; and added beauty means added worth. The poet who sang that "a thing of beauty is a joy forever" might have written with equal truthfulness—although, of course, we do not expect the minds of poets to run in such practical and commercial channels—that it is also a "thing of value forever." In the long run those improvements which add to the beauty of a city or community add also to its material prosperity and to its civic progress.

For this reason chambers of commerce and other trade organizations do good service for their communities when they urge the cleaning-up of all vacant lots and open spaces and their conversion into gardens. Travelers have noted how much better many towns looked during the past year or two because of the fact that most of the back yards "fronting" on the railroad tracks have been improved into clean, well-kept vegetable plots. The average back yard is bare of flowers, as these are reserved for the place of honor in front of the house; and so a vegetable garden in the space at the rear is highly to be commended as an attraction

to the place. A person renting or buying a piece of property which displays a healthy and prosperous-looking garden is immediately put into a more favorable frame of mind by the sight of this growing food and is willing to pay more for the place.

As to the vacant lots which straggled and scrambled along many city streets before the days of war gardens, nothing more than a mere statement of fact is necessary to convince any one that the removal of these "sore spots" is advantageous in many ways. These barren lands, with their unsightly briars and weeds, their ugly ash-heaps and piles of litter, detracted not only from the appearance but from the commercial value of all the surrounding property.

In hundreds of cases it was not realized until an actual enumeration was made, how many acres of such unused land there were in a city. There was scarcely a town of any size which did not contain a total of hundreds of acres of such idle, useless land. With little effort these unsightly lots can be converted into rich gardens to help feed the city and the nation. To clean up all such places, therefore, and to put them to profitable use, is a standing advertisement for the city. Furthermore, the example of one city leads to a duplication of the good work elsewhere and an effort to improve on it. Thus the gain of one is the gain of all. The city benefits, the state benefits, the nation benefits.

Cleveland surpassed itself in war gardening. As a result of the very active campaign conducted there under the auspices of the war garden committee, a

sub-committee of the mayor's advisory war committee, 40,000 war gardens were planted in 1918. The city had set out to make it 25,000 but went far beyond this figure. George A. Schneider, chairman of the committee, mapped out a broad and comprehensive campaign which resulted in a splendid record. Carl F. Knirk, garden director, was untiring in his efforts to make the work a complete success. A survey was made of every vacant lot in the city and its suburbs, with high-school boys aiding in this collection of data in their respective districts. Six paid instructors were engaged and each placed in charge of a certain district. Three tractor plows prepared the ground in the larger tracts.

Other agencies coöperated in the movement. These included women's clubs, schools, business houses, and manufacturing concerns. Western Reserve University introduced a course in home gardening and it was opened to some of the garden clubs and women interested in the work. Many of the industrial plants provided land for their employés and hundreds of fine gardens were the result. The companies also encouraged their men in the conservation of their garden products. Thousands of the Commission's war vegetable gardening and canning and drying books were distributed to the city's home food growers through the Cleveland Public Library and the Cleveland Public Schools and through the Cleveland Trust Company, the Citizens Savings and Trust Company, the Superior Savings and Trust Company, the Guardian Savings and Trust Company, and other public-spirited institutions.

Even a beautiful city park system loses none of its charm when a part of it is turned to utilitarian purposes. Historic Boston Common was none the less attractive to the passer-by during the season of 1918 because a fine demonstration war garden was growing at one side of it. Even when the necessities of war do not make it such an important and desirable prospect, a trim and well-cultivated series of vegetable plots such as displayed their patriotic beauty there, would not detract from the natural beauty of the landscape.

Potomac Park, in the shadow of the tall and stately Washington Monument, was a constant source of pleasure to the thousands of automobilists who sped along the river driveway. In the afternoon and twilight the sight of hundreds of war gardeners cultivating their vegetable patches in sight of the White House and the majestic dome of the Capitol was a picture never to be forgotten. Down at the lower end of the Chesapeake Bay near where busy transports were loading their precious human freight and their supplies for France, the Commission on Beautifying the City of Norfolk took charge of the war-garden campaign and conducted it to a successful conclusion, adding more than $200,000 worth of vegetables to the food wealth of that rich truck-growing section of the country.

In New York City an extremely interesting war garden was growing in Bryant Park. There in the heart of the great metropolis, shaded by over-towering sky-scrapers and beside the majestic public library, a small war garden spoke its message to the world. This demonstration plot was under the direction of

WAR GARDEN ON BOSTON COMMON

There were hundreds of visitors daily at this fine demonstration garden and the adjoining food cottages, and the result was partly shown by the fact that there were more than 30,000 war gardens in Boston in 1918. In this series of gardens on "The Common" there were thirty-five varieties of vegetables, practically everything except corn being included. Miss Anna Biddle Frismouth with several assistants was in charge of the gardens for the Women's City Club.

A. N. Gitterman, chairman of the war garden committee of the Department of Parks for the Borough of Manhattan. The little garden-house which stood there was dedicated in the spring of 1918, and from this center were distributed large quantities of the National War Garden Commission's books and other literature to help the "city farmers" of Greater New York. The work of this garden, like that of the millions of other war gardens throughout the country, was helping to keep the light burning on the Statue of Liberty at the entrance of this great harbor of a free country.

In his report at the end of the season to William F. Grell, Park Commissioner of the Borough of Manhattan, Mr. Gitterman said:

We maintained two demonstration gardens, one at Union Square, Fourteenth Street and Broadway, and the other at Bryant Park, Forty-Second Street and Sixth Avenue, where headquarters are maintained in a model garden-house which was donated to the city by the National War Garden Commission of Washington. This garden has been a great success from its dedication when President Pack turned the first spade of earth in this most valuable garden-plot in the world.

Intensive gardening was here profitably demonstrated as is shown by the results achieved in the limited area allotted to each variety. Small blackboards explained each operation in the little garden when the supervisor was working, planting, weeding, cultivating, thinning, spraying, or picking. In addition, information in detail was given on the special bulletin-board concerning insects and their control, weeds and their relation to agriculture, spraying formulæ, seed varieties, plant diseases, and other garden data of interest to the war gardener.

In the Borough of Manhattan there was an increase, according to the report, of seventy per cent. in the war-gardening activities of 1918 as compared with the year preceding. In 1919 it is expected that every available vacant lot will be planted.

More than one hundred and sixty loads of manure were furnished during the season of 1918 and delivered to the gardens from the various riding academies near Central Park.

The demonstration garden in Union Square had soil but a foot in depth over the subway roof and this served to impress upon the minds of pessimistic owners of vacant land the value of cultivation even under a handicap, as the results obtained from this one foot of soil were considerable.

A constant stream of visitors recorded their names and addresses in the guest-book at the little garden-house in Bryant Park. People from almost every city in the United States and a great number from European countries inspected the place.

Cities, as well as individuals, can entertain angels unaware, and many a community that encouraged war gardening purely as a patriotic measure, has found that city farming is a paying as well as a patriotic activity. Bread cast upon the waters, in the form of gardening efforts to help a famishing world, has returned after many days as a rich reward in increased civic wealth and betterment. Decidedly, war gardens are an asset to any city.

Photo. New York Herald.

"COUNTY FAIR" IN BRYANT PARK

An exhibition of canned products was held in the war garden on Forty-second street, New York, and eleven of the Commission's National Capitol Prize Certificates were awarded to prize-winners in the various subdivisions of Manhattan. These were presented by President Charles Lathrop Pack, the blue ribbon going to Mrs. I. C. Kahn, at left of table decoration.

CHAPTER XII

THE PART PLAYED BY DAYLIGHT SAVING

How "City Farmers" Were Enabled to Take Time by the Forelock

BECAUSE of the Daylight Saving Law war gardens added far more to the nation's food supply in the season of 1918 than would have been possible otherwise. This law was in operation during seven months of the year, from the last Sunday in March until the last Sunday in October. The impetus which this gave to the movement and the material gain resulting therefrom were almost inestimable. That the measure increased by many millions of dollars the value of the food grown is undoubted.

An idea of what this extra hour of daylight meant to the war gardeners of the country may be gathered from the actual amount of working time it presented as a free gift to the home food producers. This extra hour given each afternoon to the war gardener meant a total of 182 hours during seven months of twenty-six working days each. Multiplying this figure by the number of war gardeners in the United States—5,285,000—it gives the stupendous aggregate of 961,870,000 hours of time, or 329,407 years of eight-hour days.

More than 300,000 years were thus added to this one industry alone by a single piece of legislation, laws similar to which had been adopted by fifteen other

countries before the United States followed their example in the spring of 1918.

To secure the passage of the Daylight Saving Law the National War Garden Commission used its influence, and many of the leaders in the war-garden movement throughout the country urged upon Congress the vital need and the value of this statute. The congressional committee which had the measure in charge showed its realization of the effect the law would have on gardening by mentioning it most prominently in its report. This document said in part:

In view of the increased food production which will be brought about under the bill, the comfort and the convenience which it will bring to laborers and the public generally, and the saving of expenses, especially relating to light and fuel, it is believed by our committee that the measure should be enacted.

That the measure accomplished all that was expected of it, and was of inestimable value in helping the United States in its gigantic war preparations, is the testimony of the nation. In a statement on the subject at the conclusion of the first year's operation of the law, Senator Calder of New York, author of the bill, called particular attention to its benefit to war gardeners. He said:

The Daylight Saving Law which became effective on the last Sunday in March has more than fulfilled the prophecies of its advocates. It has really turned one hour of night into day. People live by custom. They rise in the morning by the clock; they eat their meals

NO AGE LIMIT ON PATRIOTISM

Although more than ninety years of age, Mrs. Thomas L. Edwards, of Oberlin, Ohio, looked after her own war garden and did all the work except the initial plowing. Then when canning time came she put up a lot of vegetables for herself and sent some as a Thanksgiving present to relatives. She was born in Wales and had a number of nephews and grand-nephews at the front.

by the clock, and go to bed by the clock, so that during the time this law has been in operation a vast majority of the people of this country have been awake one hour more of daylight and asleep one hour more of dark than they were formerly. This additional hour of daylight has been most helpful to the men, women, and children of the nation who have taken advantage of it to plant war gardens, thereby not only relieving the strain upon the farm but to a very considerable degree tending toward economy in family expenditures. It has also saved in gas and electric bills not less than ten per cent. of the money formerly spent for this purpose. In addition, it has saved during its seven months of operation this year at least one million tons of coal. It has afforded in the construction of cantonments for our army, in the manufacture of munitions and war supplies of every character, and in the building of ships one hour more of daylight for the men engaged in these industries.

It is a universal practice for working men and women to begin their day's labor at eight o'clock and in some industries at seven o'clock in the morning. They cannot be induced to work before seven o'clock, but, with the long evening produced by this law, those who labor have been induced to work additional hours at night where the exigencies of the occasion demanded it. Without question this bill has been most helpful in the great war work in which this nation was engaged.

The Daylight Saving Law will be in effect again in 1919 and each succeeding year unless it is revoked by further legislation, for the bill as passed provided that "at two o'clock antemeridian of the last Sunday in March of each year the standard time of each zone

shall be advanced one hour, and at two o'clock antemeridian of the last Sunday in October in each year the standard time of the zone shall, by the retarding of one hour, be returned to the mean astronomical time of the degree of longitude governing said zone." Its benefits, therefore, will continue, and as the number of home food producers increases the resulting gain will be greater.

CHAPTER XIII

THE FUTURE OF WAR GARDENING

The Fruits of Peace to Spring from the Seeds of Victory

COMING events, we are told, cast their shadows before. Among the prophetic shadows now hovering over us is a finger of cloud which points to vital changes in the business of feeding the world. Indeed, these changes are already taking place. In part they have taken place, but many of us, being of those who have eyes yet do not see, are still unaware that the old order has changed and that the new order of things has come to pass.

No other single occupation born of the war has affected a greater number of people than has gardening. Starting from a mere nothing before the United States entered the war, this form of service grew in less than two years into a new occupation, which numbered its followers by the millions and, in the number of people employed, exceeded any other branch of gainful occupation with the single exception of actual farming.

The fact that such a vast number of American citizens took up this work shows that they appreciated the merit of it, and this is one of the reasons for the confident prediction that war gardening has come to stay. It is something that the world will not willingly let die. Home food production will continue because it has been found worth while; and, like other things

which this war has demonstrated to be of value and benefit to mankind, it will last.

War gardening will permanently establish itself because its peace-time value will fully equal its war-time worth. This will be true at all times, but more particularly during the first five or ten years of the great reconstruction period. During that period the matter of food production will be of the most pressing importance. It will be on a par with many of the other enormous reconstruction problems which face the world. It will require the continued application of broad thought and effort. There will be no decrease in the demand for food; in fact that demand will really be greater, much greater, than it was during the days of actual conflict.

This will be true because the coming of peace means the restoration of the freedom of the seas, and freedom of the seas means a restored commerce. German savagery and the frightfulness of unrestrained submarine warfare have largely driven the world's ordinary commerce from the seas; and much of that commerce was traffic in foodstuffs. For decades, even centuries, Europe has been dependent upon the remainder of the world for food to eke out its own inadequate supplies. Before the war, for example, England, according to the United States Food Administration, produced but one-fifth of her own foodstuffs, while France raised one-half of hers, and Italy produced perhaps two-thirds of what she consumed. What was true of these nations was true of the remainder of Europe. Unless food could

PRIZE-WINNING CANNING TEAM IN IOWA

Under the supervision of skilled home demonstration agents of the United States Department of Agriculture, and other teachers, many groups of girls throughout the country have made excellent records in conserving garden products. Here are shown Miss Julia E. Brekke, home demonstration agent, and the canning team which won first prize at the Clinton County Fair at De Witt, Iowa.

be obtained from foreign sources, hunger was sure to visit practically every European nation. The shutting off of commerce by German piracy has meant starvation, literal starvation, to multitudes of innocent persons.

The restoration of commerce means that all these starving nations will send their ships to America for food, food, and still more food. The number of these innocent neutral victims of German savagery is put by the United States Food Administration at 180,000,000 persons! Russia, too, is disorganized and starving, and her population numbers 160,000,000!

If figures never lie, the burden we must carry in time of peace, as indicated by statistics, is truly appalling. When the war began we were feeding our own 100,000,000 people and sending abroad a relatively small and constantly decreasing surplus. To our 100,000,000 we had to add the 120,000,000 people of the Entente allied nations. Speedily we found that our claim that America was "the granary of the world" was an empty boast. Merely to provide food sufficient to enable our allies to eke out their own stores taxed us to the utmost. Only through decreased consumption, by having recourse to wheatless and meatless days, by lessening our use of butter, milk, sugar, and other exportable foods could we send enough to keep our allies from actual starvation.

During the three years preceding the war, our exports of meat were just short of an average of 500,000,000 pounds a year. In 1917 we shipped abroad

2,000,000,000 pounds—an increase of 400 per cent. In the same way our exports of butter in 1913 totaled slightly more than 3,500,000 pounds. In 1917 we exported, in round numbers, 26,750,000 pounds. Before the war our shipments of cheese averaged 2,500,000 pounds. In 1917 they exceeded 66,000,000 pounds. Our exportation of condensed milk jumped from 16,500,000 pounds to 259,000,000 pounds.

If the feeding of our 120,000,000 allies made such a drain on our resources, what will happen now that 180,000,000 starving neutrals also come to us for food; when Russia's helpless 160,000,000 thrust their hands across the sea to us, even as the sinking Peter appealed to Christ, saying, "Save me or I perish"? Now that peace has come; now that Germany and Austria are again to be admitted to the society of nations, as eventually they must be, how can we prevent their hungry multitudes—another 100,000,000 souls—from also entering our markets and bidding for our food supplies? Already our former foes are begging piteously for food, and President Wilson has assured them that their appeals will be heeded.

Now that these things have come to pass, we must feed or help to feed, not 220,000,000 people as during the war, but an additional 440,000,000. In short, now that the war is ended and commerce restored, we must help to feed two-thirds of a billion of people!

Food Administrator Hoover recognized this condition as inevitable, and when the armistice was signed he was prepared to reckon with it. With the cessation of hos-

Photo by Eckhardt.

THE QUESTION IS: DOES IT "JELL"?

Mrs. Grace L. Ackley (second from left) is shown explaining the art of jelly-making to a group of other women of Hinsdale, Illinois. The Women's Association of the Union Church found so much food-saving work to do that it appointed a chairman for every day in the week.

tilities he marshalled the food forces of America and proceeded at once to Europe to join hands with the food forces of England and the Continent to the end that starvation might be prevented. As one of his initial steps, before sailing, he asked that the war gardens of America be maintained and expanded. To the Victory Gardeners, he gave the impetus of his urgent plea for continued effort in the cause of food production.

The signing of the armistice caused complete and peremptory revision of the figures dealing with America's obligations toward meeting the world's demand for food. During the war we had to furnish food for France and Belgium, but they were a France and Belgium greatly reduced in area because of German invasion. Much of their territory and millions of their people were held by the enemy, shut off from their own countries and therefore compelled to depend in part on the invaders for subsistence. To-day these people are repatriated. Their restoration to citizenship has brought the obligation to feed them.

While the direct burden falls on France and Belgium, these countries must look to America for ways and means. By all the ties of international friendship, by a sense of gratitude for the part these countries played in winning the war, by geographical location and by inherent capacity to provide food, America is the one country able to meet the call. We must also provide for the smaller allied nations which have been under German oppression—Serbia, Rumania, Greece, the

Czechs, the Jugoslavs, the starving population of Northern Russia and the people of other countries in Europe.

The revision of figures necessitated by the armistice gave new meaning to America's responsibility. The original pledge made by the United States was 17,500,000 tons of food to be shipped overseas during the year. This amount of food was 50 per cent. greater than that which was sent the year before. With Belgium and France liberated and millions in south central Europe clamoring for food, the United States undertook to increase its exports from 17,500,000 to 20,000,000 tons.

To meet the demands for food America has two sources of supply. Food can be raised only on the farms, by those who make a business of production, and on the lands of our cities, towns and villages. No other sources exist. The 40,000,000 acres of farm land under cultivation have already probably reached their maximum of possible production for the immediate present. It is obvious, therefore, that if we are to give the world more food the new supply which will make this possible must come from the only remaining source—the small gardens in our urban and suburban communities.

The changed conditions brought into being by the signing of the armistice caused the National War Garden Commission to continue its work with increased earnestness in 1919. The armistice caused hostilities to be suspended but it did not increase the food supply nor feed the hungry. The world's new demand for food made it imperative that the Victory Gardens meet and surpass the record of the war gardens. To do its share

RECEIVED CERTIFICATE NUMBER ONE

Mrs. Frank P. Brown, of Cincinnati, captured first honors with her war-garden display of canned vegetables at several exhibits where she was an entrant. She was awarded the first National Capitol Prize Certificate offered by the National War Garden Commission in 1918, to blue-ribbon winners in this class at fairs and exhibits all over the country.

toward bringing this about, to meet the urgent appeal of Mr. Hoover and to help feed a starving continent, the Commission realized that no relaxation was to be considered and its campaign for 1919 was on a broader and more vigorous scale than during the conflict.

This terrific demand for food will be not a matter of one season only. For years and years we must continue to supply unheard-of amounts of food. Indeed it would have been almost as easy to put Humpty Dumpty together again as it will be to restore Europe's agriculture. The soil of thousands of acres has literally been blown away by high explosives. Practically all the lands in the embattled nations have decreased in producing power through poor handling, neglect, and lack of fertilizers during the war. And of the host of farmers that toiled to feed Europe before the war, millions now lie beneath the soil they tilled, and other millions, maimed and crippled, can never again turn a furrow or harness a horse. As long ago as 1916 the shortage of cattle, hogs, and sheep in Europe totaled 115,000,000 head; and without livestock to produce manures years must elapse before Europe's production is restored to normal.

Since American farmers cannot produce all the food needed, American gardeners must continue and extend their merciful work of helping to supply the food needs of the world. Instead of lessening their efforts, they will be called upon to add as much as possible to their productive capacity because of the additional mouths to be fed. They are offered a new opportunity to help.

There is no question that the cultivators of our war gardens, now become victory gardens, will continue their labors.

For a decade or two before the war, there was deep study and much discussion of the problem as to how to check the exodus from the farm to the city; but argument and discussion availed nothing, and the exodus continued. In the "city farmer" has been found a partial answer to the stay-on-the-farm idea. Ambitious young men and women will not remain in the country where comforts are denied and where advantages of education and social life are few; but they will be glad to farm in the city. The victory garden has opened the way. By this means almost every one becomes a food producer.

Furthermore, increasing prices will make it desirable to the individual, and the growing demand for food will make it desirable from the country's point of view, that every one help to feed himself. The readjustment which must come out of the war calls for powers as Herculean as those it has been necessary to put forth during the terrible struggle against "Kultur." This reconstruction work calls for every bit of man-power that can be found. It is a question not of months but of years before this up-building is completed. In France, Belgium, Poland, Italy, Russia, and other European countries, the rebuilding of cities and churches, railroads and bridges, docks and roads, houses and barns, the remaking of trench-scarred and shell-torn farms, and many other big works, must be per-

INTERIOR OF A BANK, NOT A FINE GROCERY

This is a view of the war-garden exhibit, a sort of "county fair," which was held by the Paterson Savings Institution of Paterson, New Jersey, and which aroused a very lively and friendly competition among the city farmers of that place. The blue ribbon for the best canned products, and the National Capitol Prize Certificate, went to Mrs. F. H. Thoms.

formed. So we can look for no huge immigration after the war to solve our labor problem, and that problem is acute. There are no ruined cities to be rebuilt, or devastated farms to be restored in the United States, but there are innumerable construction tasks to be done that have been put aside during the war.

Thousands of miles of road—to mention a single task—will have to be completely rebuilt. The day of the heavy motor-truck as a means of transportation between city and city has come to stay, and for its accommodation there must be a strengthening of roads. This is one of the great tasks awaiting the army of men returning from the battle-fields. The construction of new buildings in our cities, checked by war-time need of material and men, must be resumed and lost time must be made up. Cities will need many improvements which will keep the workers of the world busy. In these and a hundred other ways there will be steady call for the men released from strictly war work.

All these facts point to the increasing value of the victory garden. It will be just as important a factor in the life of the nation and the community after the war as was the war garden during the conflict. The need for gardens will last for many years; and during that time, the value of gardening will have become so apparent that the movement will continue indefinitely. It will have become a habit fixed and firmly implanted in the hearts and lives of the people of the country.

In addition to all this, gardening has been found to be a health measure. It has been used in the rehabili-

tation of convalescent soldiers. Around the hospitals in Europe, almost since the beginning of the war, vegetable plots have furnished the means for providing easy and pleasant outdoor work for convalescents, which acted as a tonic to their shattered nerves and bodies. Similarly, at the hospitals and army camps in the United States this form of activity was employed to help in the rebuilding of disabled and convalescing soldiers.

In the great reconstruction work at the Walter Reed hospital, which lies in the outskirts of the nation's capital, a fifteen-acre war garden proved of much therapeutic value in the treatment of men suffering from various diseases. In addition to helping them regain their health and strength, gardening trained these men for the future and equipped them to make their own living and become valuable citizens of any community when they should leave active service. Part of the large war garden at Camp Dix, New Jersey, adjoined the base hospital; and potatoes and other vegetables were growing during the season of 1918 up to the very porches on which some of the invalids had to sit in their wheel-chairs.

Sailors as well as soldiers need fresh vegetables to eat, but they cannot grow vegetables at sea. To overcome this handicap a movement was started throughout the United Kingdom to give naval men a supply of fresh vegetables whenever they got to port. Navy vegetable rations formerly consisted of potatoes only, and a few dried or canned products which could be kept a long time and stored in small space. The new

Photo by Eckhardt.

GETTING THE WINTER SUPPLY READY

Under the direction of Mrs. Grace L. Ackley, the demonstration canning kitchen established in Hinsdale, Illinois, was a great success. Some women went for instruction, others took war-garden crops to have them canned there, while still others took their maids so that they might learn how to save food.

British organization soon had eight hundred branches and collecting depots throughout the United Kingdom. Headquarters were established in London, with Admiral Lord Beresford as president. The patrons included many prominent people, but its members ranged from the owners of large estates, contributing regular supplies weekly, to the small schoolboy with only a ten-foot plot to cultivate. Not long after the work got under way, 300,000 pounds of fresh vegetables and fruits were being furnished weekly to the British navy. In speaking of this work and its value, Rear Admiral Lionel Halsey, third lord of the Admiralty, said:

Those associated with the Vegetable Products Committee can happily feel that this work is of priceless value, for without a vegetable food the men of the fleet could not have so thoroughly performed their work in the past; nor will they be able to do so in the future without a continuance of this splendid work as efficiently and as generously as in the past. Its value may be realized when it is stated that these supplies are an invaluable factor in keeping the men in good health and fitness.

What is true in the case of the stalwart men of the British navy, is true of all other members of society, of high and low degree. There is need for vegetable food. The body is kept in better condition if it does not depend too largely on a meat diet. Victory gardening will add greatly to the proportion of greens which will enter into the diet of the American people.

The future of gardening, therefore, is assured. It is

such an important economic gain, and its benefits in other ways are so numerous, that the army of home food producers themselves will be its strongest and most ardent champions. Both by practice and by precept they will continue to spread the gospel of "Food F. O. B. the Kitchen Door." Just as the army which has fought for justice, decency, and civilization will see to it that these principles are maintained in every part of the world, so the soldiers of the soil in city, town, and village, millions of whom have tested the worth of gardening, will be its future champions and defenders. It is in these ways that the seeds of victory will insure the fruits of peace.

CHAPTER XIV

CONSERVING THE GARDEN SURPLUS

How Housewives Turned Their Reserves into Preserves

FROM the governments of the Entente Allies and the associated nations, whose territory girdled the earth, came the cry for conservation. There was need for this cry. Never in the world's history was material of all kinds used up in such quantities. More than once, in a three-hour preparation for a short advance, a greater number of shells had to be employed than were fired in the entire Franco-Prussian War. Shells are but a type. Everything was used in unheard-of quantities. This was particularly true of food, the basic material upon which the entire structure of victory rested. Speedily it became apparent that everything possible must be saved—old cartridge cases, old shoes, old shells, old clothes, old materials of every sort—and particularly food. This was especially true of food because material like old shoes or old shells could be used repeatedly; but food once eaten was gone forever. As the world's food supply became more inadequate the cry for conservation grew more and more insistent.

"Turn your reserves into preserves!" became the order of the day among the women all over the country. With this as their slogan they made ready by the million to build up a second line of defense which would

serve as an effective bulwark against the enemy. The call to make "Every Garden a Munition Plant" was supplemented by the women with the motto: "Every Kitchen a Canning Factory." Every facility that could be found was utilized to carry on this effort. Women's clubs everywhere urged upon their members and others the importance of this work. Community kitchens were opened for the convenience and assistance of those who did not have the means or the time, at home, to preserve all the vegetables grown in their gardens.

It was necessary that a certain amount of information concerning new and scientific methods of canning be furnished with the appeals made to women to proceed with the work, so the National War Garden Commission furnished precise and practical instructions. This it did in a number of ways. A comprehensive but concise canning and drying book was prepared by scientific experts and printed by the Commission for free distribution. Several million copies of this manual were given out during the first season of the garden campaign; and an equal number of the improved and revised editions which were issued in 1918 and 1919. These went to hundreds of thousands of individuals who applied for them, to libraries, local canning clubs and committees, chambers of commerce, and other trade bodies, banks, and manufacturing concerns, schools, hundreds of emergency home demonstration agents of the United States Department of Agriculture, and to state, county, and city food administrators.

A PRIZE-WINNING EXHIBIT

At the big war-garden exposition held in Rochester, New York, the blue ribbon for best canned vegetables went to the display shown there by the Eastman Kodak Company whose employes had gone into the work of home food production and food conservation most enthusiastically. Mrs. Tillie Baldwin who carried off the company's first prize with her canned vegetables and fruits was also awarded a National Capitol Prize Certificate by the National War Garden Commission.

A series of canning lessons was prepared by the Commission's experts. These were supplied to the newspapers of the country, hundreds of which ran them as daily instructions. With many of them illustrations were used, showing the various steps in the cold-pack method of canning, and giving other educational hints in pictorial form so as to attract the eye of the home food conserver and make the work plainer. News stories telling what was being done along this line in various sections of the country were published in the daily press; and large numbers of feature articles were written and widely circulated.

To arouse further interest in the work and to encourage the best possible efforts, recognition was accorded by the National War Garden Commission for excellence of product. This was in addition to local prizes and awards and was in the form of National Capitol Prize Certificates which were given to the blue-ribbon or first-prize winners at exhibits and fairs for the best displays of canned vegetables from war gardens. With these certificates the Commission gave money awards, the first year in cash, and the second year in thrift stamps.

Many large manufacturing concerns which had extended aid to their employés in planting gardens held fairs at which the products raised were displayed and prizes awarded in the various classes. At a number of these the Commission's certificate constituted the grand prize which went to the sweepstakes-winner in the canned-vegetable class. Not only did hundreds of

industrial plants, large and small, provide land for their men, prepare it for cultivation and divide it into small individual plots, but they also made arrangements for the wives of their workers to can their surplus products in kitchens set apart for the purpose and with capable instructors placed in charge to show the women how to obtain the best results.

The appeal to the women of the United States to "Back Up the Cannon with the Canner" met with loyal response. Testimony has been given by prominent officials, governmental, military, and civil that the war could not have been won without the aid of the women. They took places left vacant by men in munition factories, on the farms, and in a hundred other activities. It will never be possible to estimate accurately the extent to which they made victory a certainty. But to no class of women is there due a greater meed of praise than to the silent millions all over the country who helped to save food. While their sisters were working in munition factories, these women in countless numbers were packing away "ammunition" in jars so that the boys in France might always have a supply. Soon after he landed in France, General Pershing sent a message to America. It said: "Keep the Food Coming." The women of the country obeyed the order. With ladles and spoons instead of bayonets, with wash-boilers in place of tanks, and with cans and jars as their weapons instead of hand-grenades and bombs, they performed valiant service.

They made a fine start in 1917 when, from the

surplus products of the millions of war gardens, they preserved something like 500,000,000 quart jars of vegetables and fruits. In the following season they far surpassed their previous record and, according to estimates, stowed away approximately 1,450,000,000 quart jars of garden produce.

CHAPTER XV

COMMUNITY CONSERVATION

How American Cities Backed up the Cannon with the Canner

ENORMOUS as was the quantity of food packed away in cans by American housewives in the summer of 1918, the quantity so conserved represented only a fraction of the surplus of American war gardens. Home canning could not begin to take care of the excess, and therefore, in order that the Scriptural injunction be followed and "nothing be lost," it was necessary to establish conservation on a community basis, just as it had been found helpful to stimulate production through community gardening. These organized forms of conservation took the shape of community markets for the distribution, and community canneries for the preservation, of the garden surplus.

Though the Commission limited its efforts along these lines to the furnishing of instructions for conserving food, the work of the community centers for the sale of garden surplus proved most helpful and is worthy of mention. The usual custom was for the community club or other organization conducting the market to charge ten per cent. for selling the products. Many war gardeners found the community markets an excellent medium for disposing of surplus vegetables not needed for home consumption. Purchasers, too, were

Evening Ledger Photo.

GIRL SCOUTS CAN CAN, TOO

Girl Scouts of the Radnor High School, Wayne, Pennsylvania, under the direction of Miss Ethel Henderson, receiving instruction in the cold-pack method of canning. This campaign, conducted through the schools of the country, has resulted in a wonderful amount of food saving in this way.

glad of the opportunity afforded by the community market to secure vegetables that were fresh and choice.

One of the most prosperous and successful of these community markets was at Oakland, California, under the direction of Mrs. James Hamilton, the city director of food production, who showed courage and energy in pushing her project to success. It will be well to let her tell something of her own story. Here is part of what she has to say:

So far this market has been the means of saving hundreds of tons of vegetables and fruits, together with quantities of berries, eggs, chickens, pigeons, rabbits and honey. The greater part, if not all, of the perishables otherwise would have been wasted. This market has taken care of the war-garden supplies of our city since it was opened, together with the supplies of several of our big growers of both fruits and vegetables. It will be a very great means of stimulating production for next year because the grower *knows* he will be given a place where he can market his supplies advantageously.

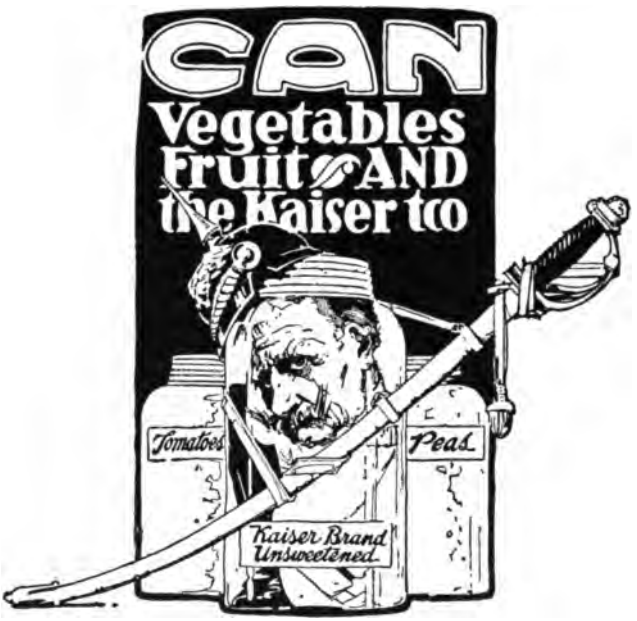
In Brookline, Massachusetts, a community market was established in an unused church, placed at the disposal of the market committee by the trustees. Here, on two days of each week, surplus garden products could be brought for sale. As gardening had been stimulated to the maximum there was much to be sold. Those who wished to sell their own products were provided, at nominal rental, with individual tables. Sales were made by the market committee for those not wishing to sell in person. For this service a small per-

centage of the selling-price was charged. To this market were brought products from the school-gardens, the surplus from back-yard gardens, and the excess from community garden-patches on great estates, where ground had been lent by the owners for the use of persons who had no garden space. Vast as was the amount of produce that poured into the market from all these sources, every particle of it was sold; and ordinarily the market was sold out long before the established hour of closing. Thus, at practically no expense, and merely by utilizing facilities at hand, the people of Brookline saved an enormous quantity of food that otherwise would almost surely have gone to waste.

The women of Roselle, New Jersey, wished to establish a community market, but lacked what would ordinarily be considered adequate facilities, until they secured the use of a vacant lot in the town, and then induced the town council to keep the lot clean. Here, on given days of each week, were brought all the surplus products of home gardens and even the excess of neighboring farms which were sold to those who had no gardens or who wished to buy products that they could not raise in their own yards. Thus the excess of the entire neighborhood was brought together and utilized.

At first glance Roselle, like many another small town, had no place which seemed fitted for a community cannery. It had a schoolhouse, however, and that schoolhouse had a kitchen. Presto! It became a community cannery. At the community market the conservation committee bought from day to day such

We Can



National War Garden Commission

WASHINGTON, D.C.

SERVICE FLAG OF THE HOME CANNER

Window hangers like this went broadcast throughout the United States and Canada. Displayed in front windows they carried to all passers-by the message of canning activities within the homes. The eager demand for these hangers showed the pride of the home canners in their work.

vegetables as it was desired to can, and the transportation committee conveyed these products, in motor-cars lent for the purpose, to the schoolhouse cannery, where the women of the town did the canning. Thus Roselle did with its might what its hands found to do—and did it with what was available.

In similar spirit of determination the women of Williamsport, Pennsylvania, secured the use of a church kitchen for the summer of 1917 and there began the conservation of community surplus. Under the leadership of Mrs. John G. Reading and Mrs. H. C. McCormick, and with the assistance of Mrs. R. F. Allen and many other able women, this task so humbly begun grew in size and importance until the canning system embraced the entire county. In 1918 adequate quarters were secured in the business district. Here canning outfits were installed, and the women of the city came day after day to put up the surplus from the market and the excess products brought in by farmers. A substantial fund had been voted by the local Committee of Safety to finance this work. Thus the women were able to buy whatever products were brought in. In seven other districts in the county similar work was going on. All the canning centers were run on identical lines and all were affiliated with the central cannery at Williamsport. In this way scores of women throughout the entire county were drawn into the work. Beyond any question this conservation movement had much to do with the remarkable community spirit exhibited throughout the county.

Another interesting example of a community cannery was to be found in Salt Lake City. Recognizing the need for food conservation, the city's women first brought about the creation of a community market and later established a community canning kitchen that was run in connection with that market. The work was carried on under the chairmanship of Mrs. C. H. McMahon.

The cannery itself consisted of one of the large market stalls, temporarily enclosed for the purpose and equipped with a complete canning outfit. Mrs. W. F. Adams, president of the city's federated women's clubs, was executive head of the organization. She was on duty daily, arriving at the cannery by 7:30 o'clock in the morning. Each morning the market-master purchased in the market such products as Mrs. Adams desired. Sometimes he secured these products direct from the neighboring farms. Occasionally fruit or vegetables were offered to the cannery free on condition that they be picked and taken away. In such cases troops of Boy Scouts were utilized to do the harvesting and motor-cars, offered for the purpose, were used to bring the food to the cannery. In order that there might be a constant force of women at work, that the labor should not become irksome to any, and that the interest be as widespread as possible, Mrs. Adams appointed six lieutenants to look after the labor supply. Each lieutenant was responsible for supplying a given number of hands on one day of each week and each lieutenant procured a certain number of women to pledge them-

Post-Dispatch Photo.

ACHIEVEMENT CLUB GIRLS

These three young St. Louis girls are members of one of the Achievement Clubs which took an active part in many cities in teaching and spreading the doctrine of proper food preparation and conservation. Canning of surplus vegetables and fruits was one of their most important accomplishments.

selves to work for her at the cannery on a given day each week. In this way the supply of labor was assured. Usually there was additional help, for all volunteers were welcomed.

In order that the work might be done scientifically, and the pack be uniform from day to day, everything was done under the direction of a paid expert. Visitors were free to come and watch operations, which were thus a continuous demonstration of scientific canning, and thousands of women who had come to market only to buy products also dropped into the cannery and learned the up-to-date methods. The educational value of this effort was beyond computation. The women of the entire city were reached.

One of the most interesting conservation efforts reported to the National War Garden Commission was that of the employés in the shop of the Carolina & Northwestern Railway Company at Hickory, North Carolina. So great was their enthusiasm that they took the cylinder from an old engine and turned it into a canning plant. They coupled up this cylinder with the shop steam-boiler, put on a steam-gauge and drain-cock, and inside the cylinder placed three shelves of heavy wire to hold the jars of vegetables and fruits. Their community canning plant was then ready for operation.

Reports to the Commission from all parts of the country indicated that in a great number of places arrangements were made to preserve surplus garden products through community canneries, and also

showed the success that attended this effort. Typical of the spirit that animated many of these reports is a statement in a communication from J. D. Parnell, secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Vernon, Texas. Mr. Parnell wrote:

We have a community canner and are preserving everything that we grow. We are also going outside of our county into the communities where they are not equipped to preserve perishable stuff and buying surplus. We can it and sell it to those who have no gardens.

Home demonstration agents of the United States Department of Agriculture, women's clubs, representatives of manufacturing concerns, gas and electric companies, and numerous individuals coöperated in this community canning. "The Federation of Women's Clubs and myself coöperating will supervise the marketing and the canning of the surplus products of the gardens," was the report to the Commission from Miss Anna Allen, emergency home demonstration agent at Independence, Kansas. Similar work was performed in hundreds of places.

The success of these community canneries is indicated by many reports such as one from Dallas, Texas, which boasted of 20,000 war gardens in 1918, with 17,500 cans of vegetables preserved after the plant had been in operation only a few weeks. This same Texas report told of community canneries at Austin, Beaumont, Marshall, and Corsicana. The last named was in the Odd Fellows Hall and was operated by the children. During the first week of its existence the community

cannery at Temple, where there were 5,000 war gardens, took care of one ton of black-eyed peas. The cannery at Beaumont had a capacity of 500 cans daily.

Thus, in hundreds of community canneries the country over, thousands of women were saving the excess food upon which the fate of democracy rested, and practicing, as they canned, democracy itself.

CHAPTER XVI

CONSERVATION BY DRYING

How American Housewives Made It Hot for the Kaiser

MARIE ANTOINETTE'S milliner once remarked that there is nothing new except what is forgotten. One of the "new" methods of food conservation practiced by the women of America during the war was that of drying food. To most of them the process was an absolute novelty, yet it is as old as civilization itself. It is merely one of those practices so long out of use as to be forgotten.

Most of us are familiar with dried apples and the evaporated fruits of California, but there our knowledge ends. To most of us it comes as a distinct surprise, almost as a shock, to learn that practically all vegetables and fruits can be preserved for future use by drying. Certainly it was a great surprise to most of the housewives of America when they were asked to conserve food, not only by canning, with even which process many were only slightly acquainted, but also by drying, a method practically unheard of.

Drying is both economical and simple as a method of preserving food. It requires no elaborate or costly apparatus. The finished product can be kept in any sort of containers that are clean; whereas in canning expensive glass receptacles must be purchased. Dried foods are compact, thus saving space in storing and

Photo by Wurtis Bros.

HE IS NOT LECTURING, HE WON THE CANNING CONTEST

The women of Elmhurst, New York, were not jealous but applauded when the announcement was made on the evening of their war-garden contest that the first prize for canned vegetables, carrying with it the National Capitol Prize Certificate, had been awarded by the judges to Mr. Charles A. Rundquist. He did his garden and canning work in the late afternoons and evenings.

shipping. The original quality and flavor of the dried product is largely retained; and when dried foods are restored by proper soaking, they can hardly be distinguished from fresh vegetables and fruits.

Specifically, dried food products are products free from moisture. The words "dried" and "drying" are applied in general to foods preserved in a comparatively water-free state, without regard to the method of drying employed. Technically, the term "dried" as applied to food products means products that are dried by exposure to the heat of the sun; "evaporating" is drying by artificial heat; "dehydrating" is drying by artificial air blast, the process often including the application of artificial heat as well.

The duration of the drying process varies with the method chosen, the size and degree of compactness of the material to be dried, the variety of the product, the range of temperature, and the humidity of the atmosphere. Two hours is sufficient time to dry some products by evaporation or dehydration. Other products may require from one to several days for sun-drying.

Practically all fruits and vegetables, it was early found, can be dried successfully so far as the "keeping" quality is concerned. It was discovered, however, that many dried vegetables were unpalatable when eventually cooked and served. Enzymic action in the raw products, as well as bacterial action, caused chemical changes which not only affected the flavor of dried food but to some extent also affected its wholesomeness.

The problem thus arose as to how this disadvantage could be overcome.

Cooking was tried. Complete cooking, parboiling, and even partial cooking were employed with various vegetables, until it was found that a certain minimum period of boiling water treatment was favorable to both the wholesomeness and the flavor of dried products.

This treatment, which varies in time for different products, has been accepted as an essential part of the proper drying of vegetables. It is called "blanching." By it the protoplasm is killed and enzymic action stopped. There is a thorough cleansing and a destruction of many bacteria. Furthermore the flow of coloring matter is started, and the color of the product thus accentuated. The fibers are loosened and softened and a condition created which facilitates the giving-off of moisture in the drying process.

In "cooking" food, heat is usually applied long enough to alter the nature of certain materials, such as starch, rendering them digestible. Blanching should not be confused with cooking as it differs both in purpose and effect. It is a preparatory process by which the wholesomeness and flavor of a sound product are retained through the temporary stoppage of chemical changes due to agencies present and to bacterial action when raw flesh is exposed to the air. The drying process should follow at once, and be done as rapidly as possible, with due attention to the proper temperatures, which range from 115° to 175° F. according to the products handled.

PREPARING TO DRY VEGETABLES

Dehydration except in the case of a few fruits is comparatively a new art in this country, and yet the process is simple. Practically all vegetables can be dried successfully. An effective drier to hang over a stove is simply made. The trays are of galvanized wire screen of small mesh tacked to the frame. A rotary slicer cuts the vegetables into uniform slices and secures regularity in drying.

If products are not dried sufficiently, the moisture retained makes a medium for the development of bacteria and mold, and spoilage occurs. How much water to extract becomes therefore, an important consideration. The abundant sugar present in most fruits acts as a preservative and therefore it is not necessary that they be so dry as vegetables. A rational method of determining the right degree of drying for the finished stage is by the texture of the products. Most vegetables should be rather brittle when taken from the drier, and fruits should be leathery and pliable. One method of determining whether fruit is dry enough is to squeeze a handful, and if the fruit separates when the hand is opened, it is dry enough. Another way is to squeeze a single piece; if no moisture comes to the surface the piece is sufficiently dry. Berries are dry enough if they stick to the hand but do not crush when pressed.

There is considerable shrinkage in bulk and weight when products are dried. The reduction in weight is in direct proportion to the amount of moisture lost, but the reduction in bulk varies with both the structure of the product and the amount of water removed. In general terms it may be said that foods, in drying, are reduced to a bulk ranging from one-third to one-fifth of their original volume and to a weight from one-sixth to one-twelfth of the weight of the fresh material.

After the Boer War, considerable surplus dried vegetable material, no longer needed for the English army, was put into barrels and stored away. The barrels were opened during the European war and the contents

satisfactorily used for army rations. Products thus kept unchanged in quality and flavor for eighteen years might reasonably be supposed to keep well almost indefinitely.

Naturally enough, most of the conservation of food so far accomplished through drying has been done by housewives in their homes.

Home drying is profitable both to the household and the nation; but if a neighborhood or community pools its expenditures for equipment and works as a unit, a larger amount of material may be dried with greater convenience and a considerable saving of labor, time, and fuel. A bigger drier than could be put into a home kitchen can be set up in a schoolhouse, parish house, clubhouse, or other accessible place for common use in drying; and definite hours of duty can be assigned to different persons. Such, in general, is the plan of neighborhood or community drying. Details as to how much material each person may bring at one time, just when such material shall be brought, and who shall be on duty to regulate the drier, should be worked out by a small committee, preferably of three persons.

Each woman should prepare her own products and leave in good order the utensils she has used. When people are novices at drying it is advisable to hire a paid expert for a short time, and if the arrangement for a common drier is to cover the entire community, the continuous services of at least one salaried person are necessary. Some one is also required to do regular cleaning in the quarters used. This may require an

A MONTANA PRIZE CANNER

Although she had never done any gardening or canning before, Irene McMahon, a twelve-year-old girl of Missoula, Montana, won the first award for the products she conserved and exhibited. She received a National Capitol Prize Certificate from the National War Garden Commission.

hour a day, once or twice a week, or all day every day, according to the needs.

Our country is calling upon the women of America to do their utmost to preserve for winter use all garden, orchard and market surplus. In millions of homes prompt action has been taken for home canning and drying. There remains, in addition, an enormous surplus still uncared for. The solution of the problem is to be found in community drying, which is simply organized drying, not for commercial profit, but for mutual aid and facility in the conservation of vegetables and fruit for home use.

How can a community drier best be started? If three to six or eight families are to benefit, it will be necessary to secure a room with running water in or near it. A space is necessary for conditioning, and, provided it is not damp, the same room or one near by may be used. Space and facilities for blanching vegetables are essential, so that chimney, gas or electric connection is also needed. Such a place can doubtless be found in the home of one of the members.

An evaporator can be purchased for from $25.00 to $50.00. A stove to supply heat to the evaporator is needed and very probably would not have to be bought. A home-made dehydrator can be readily devised and is practical where rates for electricity are low. A motor-fan running on kerosene or aclohol is also on the market. Hot air combined with the fan makes the drying more rapid. Drying by air blast without heat is satisfactory in dry climates. Where the atmosphere is humid, the

process takes a long time and the addition of heat is desirable.

A slicer for vegetables costs $1.50 or more, according to size. Tables and other utensils may be collected from the different households. White oilcloth for tables, cheese-cloth for use in protecting material from insects and dust, and pasteboard cartons for containers of dried products would make necessary slight extra purchases. Butter containers are useful for holding dried products, as are also baking-powder cans and similar covered tins.

If an entire community is to be organized, it will be necessary to ascertain how many families will use the community plant and approximately how much material will be dried daily. These things determined, a drier can be chosen intelligently. Because of its usual hot-air blast, which dries products more quickly than they can be dried by the evaporating process, a dehydrator is often preferable. The cost of a satisfactory dehydrator may be put at $1,000 to $2,500. A home-made outfit may be constructed at considerably less expense. Carpenters and men installing heating apparatus will usually be glad to furnish estimates of cost, if supplied with a description of the apparatus desired.

Mr. C. W. Pugsley* devised a successful community plant, which was first used at Lincoln, Nebraska. His method is dehydration minus heat, which system is

* For dimensions and detailed directions, see "A Successful Community Drying Plant," by C. W. Pugsley, Farmers' Bulletin 916, United States Department of Agriculture.

THEY HELPED TO CAN THE KAISER

The Inland Steel Company's plant, at South Chicago, Illinois, was blessed with patriotic employes. Their war gardens supplied vegetables regularly to the South Chicago Day Nursery and to many needy families. The picture shows patriotism expressed in both slogans and canned vegetables.

serviceable in dry climates. The cost of an outfit like this would be $250 or more according to the local cost of materials and labor. Twelve of these driers have been in successful operation. Instead of air being forced over the products, suction is used, the theory being that the drying is quickened by this reversal of the air blast.

Illustrations, descriptions, and prices of several standard ready-made evaporators and dehydrators should be obtained from dealers or manufacturers. From technical training institutions information can be obtained as to the cost of procuring persons for instruction and management to take charge of a drying plant. In making an estimate of funds needed there should be included also service for cleaning, cost of operation of stove, fan, or both, and $25.00 to $30.00 for accessory equipment. It should be clear to all concerned that a major part of the expenditure would represent investment for an indefinite number of seasons, and should not be considered in terms of one season.

The committee or individual promoter, with the estimate in hand, may then consider how best to finance the matter. The local Chamber of Commerce or a leading women's club is a suitable organization to back a movement for organized food conservation. Such emergency activities should be as far as possible conducted by committees of established central bodies. The unnecessary multiplication of associations is a handicap to a community.

Adequate organization, as well as backing is necessary. It is as essential to have the right executive

machinery as to have the proper material facilities. There should be an equipment committee, a publicity committee, a workers' committee, a food supplies committee, and an executive committee composed of the chairman of these. All committees should meet at least once a month. In charge of the drying plant there should be a man or a woman of technical training and experience. There should be a checker to keep account of products, and a book-keeper. Volunteer service is usually obtainable for these duties. Women who help to prepare and dry extra products which are sent in as general surplus should be paid by the hour. Such payment should be in products rather than in money, and the value of the products should be based upon market prices of fresh products plus the cost of drying, including labor.

The location is important. It should be central and suitable. School kitchens are usually available, are fitted with various conveniences, and are rarely used during the summer. Church kitchens are sometimes offered, but their use sometimes interferes with other activities on the social side of church work which it may not be wise to interrupt. Empty stores or space in a gas or electric company's quarters are good possibilities.

The schoolhouse is usually the most economic choice. In fact, parts of the house itself may frequently be converted into dehydrators. When viewed merely from a local standpoint, it may seem advisable simply to buy a ready-made dehydrator; but considering the number of communities in the whole country, and the

FOOD GOES WITH THE FLAG

The American flag has meant food to Belgium and other countries. In this picture is shown Walter Wolski, an employe of the Inland Steel Company, of South Chicago, who had the prize garden among the employes at the plant. He raised produce worth close to $200 and his wife put up more than 200 cans of vegetables.

need for drying operations in each one, it is uneconomic to buy. There are not enough dehydrators made to dry the surplus home products of the country; shortage of man-power renders an adequate development of their manufacture difficult, not to say impossible.

Mr. W. L. Feisher writes in the *Journal of American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers*, April, 1918:

I claim that in our newer schools and in our public buildings throughout the country, those things that are required for the drying of food products are already at hand, and that the walls of the rooms, or the corridors in these buildings, eliminate the necessity of a great part of the kilns themselves, and that with very little ingenuity, the heating and ventilating systems in our schools and public buildings can be turned into dehydrating plants in quick order. As to the actual application of my idea, in most of our schools the blowers are located in the basements and the main ducts leading from these blowers are run through the corridors of the basements in the various uptakes. It is my idea that these basement corridors can be turned into tunnel driers by means of wooden partitions, or where the corridors are narrow enough, only cut-offs and divisions are essential. The heated air can then be blown into one end of the corridors and the duct blanked off with a damper beyond this outlet. At the far end of the corridor or tunnel, another damper can be placed and an inlet located at this point, with a connection taken from a point beyond the first damper back into the fan so that recirculation from the fan end of the tunnel can be obtained. In this way, we can create a very fair tunnel drier, which according to commercial practice, is the very best and most economical drier built.

It has ever been true that distance lends enchantment to view. Only the near at hand and the familiar seem mean and commonplace. To use what we already possess often seems both foolish and useless. Yet it was by using the five loaves and two fishes from their own pouches that the disciples fed the multitude, and many another miracle has been performed by utilizing what is already at hand. In organizing community driers it will usually be found that all the facilities needed already exist if only we have the vision to see them. Existing organizations, existing buildings, existing apparatus, and the advice and assistance of local carpenters, plumbers and other workmen will provide the essentials for a successful community drier in almost any city or town. "Use what you have" is a good motto for those about to organize a community drier.

CHAPTER XVII

WHY WE SHOULD USE DRIED FOODS

The War-Time Need of "Multum in Parvo"

NECESSITY is said to be the mother of invention; and one of the children to whom Necessity has had to give birth during the American industrial development of the last half-century, and the rapid growth of our cities, was an adequate system of storing up food for winter use and of distributing the food so preserved. It is only within recent years that fresh, succulent vegetables have been obtainable in winter time; and for most people the cost of these is absolutely prohibitive. At first the canning of food products met the needs of the situation, and the last score or two of years have witnessed an incredible development of commercial canning and distribution of food products.

The continued development of our cities with their teeming populations, and particularly the necessities of war time, with their demands for *multum in parvo* have made imperative a still further advance in the matter of food conservation and distribution. This is particularly true at this time because ahead of us we can distinctly see the lean years yawn, even as Pharaoh beheld the hungry kine in his dream.

History is said to repeat itself; and assuredly we have witnessed an historic repetition in the creation of a food administrator to watch over our stores, even as

Joseph was appointed to prepare against the lean years that overtook the dwellers along the Nile. Joseph, representing autocracy, took the task into his own hands. Mr. Hoover, acting for democracy, asked us to do the job ourselves. Both cut the Gordian knot of their perplexity in much the same way. Joseph dried the excess corn and stored it in his granaries. Mr. Hoover asked us to can and dry our garden surplus. In each case food conservation won the day. Indeed, so close is the parallel between events in Joseph's day and ours, that no more accurate description of what is doing in the world to-day can be found than the Scriptural recitation of occurrences along the Nile: "The dearth was in all lands; but in all the land of Egypt there was bread. . . . And all countries came into Egypt to Joseph for to buy corn."

Even so all countries are coming to America to secure wheat and meat, and particularly fats. Here occurs the feature that differentiates present-day conditions from those of Joseph's time. Joseph's customers could come to him on dry land; but a mighty ocean, three thousand miles wide, lies between America and her starving customers. Before they can get food they must have ships. Even that mighty tonnage pictured in Lloyd George's phrase, "Ships, ships, and still more ships," can hardly transport the food fast enough to save the starving world from starvation. Dean Swift called for benedictions upon the head of him who made two blades of grass or two ears of corn to grow where only one had grown before. To-day, he might add to his list of

those who deserve well of mankind those who can transport two tons of food where only one was transported before. In effect that is what is made possible by the preservation of food through drying, for in drying, foods lose both bulk and weight.

This reduction in weight of dried vegetables and fruits ranges from five-sixths to eleven-twelfths with even greater reduction in some cases. A California operator furnishes these figures for shrinkage: Potatoes, about six to one; cabbage, about twenty to one; tomatoes, about twenty to one; spinach, about eighteen to one; turnips, fourteen to one; carrots, about nine to one. Less than three pounds of dried tomatoes, for instance, are equivalent to sixty pounds of canned tomatoes. Not only are the products much shrunken, when taken from the drier, but they may be still more compressed in packing so that the bulk is further lessened. This reduction in weight also lowers transportation costs. A shipping incident serves to illustrate clearly the economy involved. Fifty pounds of fresh Brussels sprouts were shipped in the winter of 1917-18 by express from California to an eastern point at twelve cents a pound. Adding to this cost of $6.00 the cost of shipping with the vegetables one hundred pounds of ice at twelve cents a pound, there was a total transportation charge of $18.00. The equivalent of these fifty pounds of fresh Brussels sprouts, namely three pounds of dried products, which required no ice, might have been shipped to the same point by parcel post for thirty-five or thirty-six cents.

With such an average reduction in bulk, the space required for transportation and storage is far less than that required for either fresh or canned products. In certain instances the reduction is very great. It varies with the percentage of water in fresh products. One carload of dried tomatoes, for example, is equivalent to thirty carloads of canned tomatoes.

Especially are dried products adapted for our military camps, fleets, and overseas fighting force. Army officials estimate that two men are needed daily to prepare potatoes and other vegetables for every one hundred soldiers. Dried vegetables are already prepared and are ready to cook, after soaking in water. In an army of 2,000,000 men their use would release nearly 40,000 men for other tasks. As the original preparation of vegetables for drying is done largely by simple and inexpensive machinery, there is thus a tremendous saving of man-power. The shrinkage in bulk makes dried products acceptable and fitting naval stores, and trans-ocean freight.

Germany's stores of dried vegetables greatly helped her in carrying on the war. During the last year of which the United States government has any official record, Germany dried, in potatoes alone, more than twice the entire quantity raised in this country. She more than doubled the number of her plants after starting the war, and has now more than two thousand. There are in Germany fifty-six firms supplying complete drying apparatus, and thirty-seven other firms which supply auxiliary machines and parts. The drying is

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TOOTHSOME VIANDS AT DRIED FOOD LUNCHEON

When Mrs. Robert Lansing, wife of the Secretary of State, entertained a group of prominent Washington matrons at luncheon, the entire bill of fare was made up of dried foods. The six-course meal included bouillon from dried vegetables, dried chicken, a Neapolitan salad made of dried peas, dried lima beans and dried tomatoes with cream cheese filling. All the foods were restored to their original volume by steaming and soaking before they were served.

applied to vegetables chiefly, only about twenty-two plants being for milk-drying.

Despite all these facts one finds practically no dried vegetables for sale at retail in America, and only a limited amount of dried fruit. Outside of government contracts there has been and is little or no market for dried products. The National War Garden Commission has inquired carefully into the matter, and has corresponded with most of the commercial drying concerns in the country. One and all report that, aside from contracts with the War Department, they have practically no market for their products.

It is highly desirable that markets for dried foods be created and speedily. The food situation in the world is to-day more critical than it was at any time during the war. The task of feeding themselves has taxed to the utmost the United States and her co-belligerents. Now peace imposes upon these defenders of civilization a task that is simply appalling. German submarine warfare reduced to actual starvation the 180,000,000 people in the neutral nations of Europe. Beyond question we must rescue these unfortunates from starvation, by sharing with them. It is apparent, too, that our responsibility does not end there. Austria and the new nations which were formerly a part of that country together with Bulgaria, Turkey, and Russia, are also starving. If we are to have lasting peace in the world, if we are to have stable governments and the settled conditions of existence, which alone make progress possible—in short, if we are to make safe that condition

of democracy for which we have fought, these people must be fed.

"Hunger," said Robinson Crusoe," knows no friend, no relation, no justice, no right, and therefore is remorseless and capable of no compassion." Hunger will endanger the peace of any community or nation. However we may feel toward our former enemies, the best good of the world, including America, demands that they have enough to eat. Otherwise there can be no settled peace, no progress, no reconstruction. Fate has placed largely upon American shoulders the burden of helping the world's hunger over the critical years that lie immediately before us.

This being the case, we must have conservation, conservation, and still more conservation. We must produce more food than ever before and conserve every ounce produced. As much as possible of this excess should be conserved in the form which best meets the needs of the situation. For use in our homes canned foods are highly desirable, but for shipment abroad, dehydrated products will be particularly needed. France needs steel and wood and cement and a thousand other kinds of material for the rebuilding of those vast ruins which once were French cities. All Europe needs cattle, millions of cattle, to make good the present shortages and needs cattle-feed by the trainload. Ships will be needed to carry our own soldiers back home. The demands on shipping space will be almost beyond conception. Whatever saves space, therefore, is a prime requisite in the upbuilding of a ruined world. Since

food is the first of all requirements, we should by all means adopt and develop that method of food shipment which calls for least space. This means that we should greatly increase the use of dried foods.

One thing alone stands in the way of a large development of the commercial drying industry. Aside from government contracts, the food driers have at present practically no market for their products. Manufacturer after manufacturer has so reported to the National War Garden Commission, and practically all report that it is difficult to create a market. The period of government contracts is limited. Army consumption will decrease rapidly. Faced with this situation, food driers naturally do not care greatly to enlarge their plants.

Something must therefore be done to create a market for dried foods. For one thing, an educational advertising campaign on the part of the operators is to be strongly urged. A western company writes of the astonishment of visitors "at the simple and sanitary method of handling the fruits or vegetables," and their interest "because of the very apparent economy of the method." With this as a premise an intelligent advertising campaign should quickly create a market. The establishment of government-controlled plants and government advertising would more quickly and thoroughly create markets, however, than the usual procedure of private companies. Dried foods are practically "new" foods, and the acquisition of a new food habit by a whole people is exceedingly slow, unless the government systematically undertakes its establishment.

The policy of the Department of Agriculture in regard to the use of the drying fund of $250,000 appropriated by Congress, will be of great economic significance. Such a fund has been strongly needed, and makes possible enlarged and nation-wide help in the urgent matter of drying vegetables and fruits, and placing them in the homes of the people.

The appropriation will be used in conducting further experiments with dehydration of food products and carrying this knowledge to the American people. The Secretary of Agriculture has appointed Major S. C. Prescott, who was in the food division of the surgeon general's office, United States army, and Mr. Lou D. Sweet, of the United States Food Administration, as a committee to carry out the purposes of the appropriation. Major Prescott was professor of micro-biology at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology before he was called into war service.

When the appropriation became available, plans were promptly made for beginning the dehydration experiments. Able construction engineers and other experts whose services could be helpful were called in to aid in this work which Mr. Sweet characterizes as "one of the biggest benefits that has come to the American people as a result of the war." Soon after the committee was organized plans were under way looking to the construction of several dehydration plants with a capacity each of from 60,000 to 100,000 pounds daily of raw product.

These plants are not to be built by the government but by private corporations with which the government

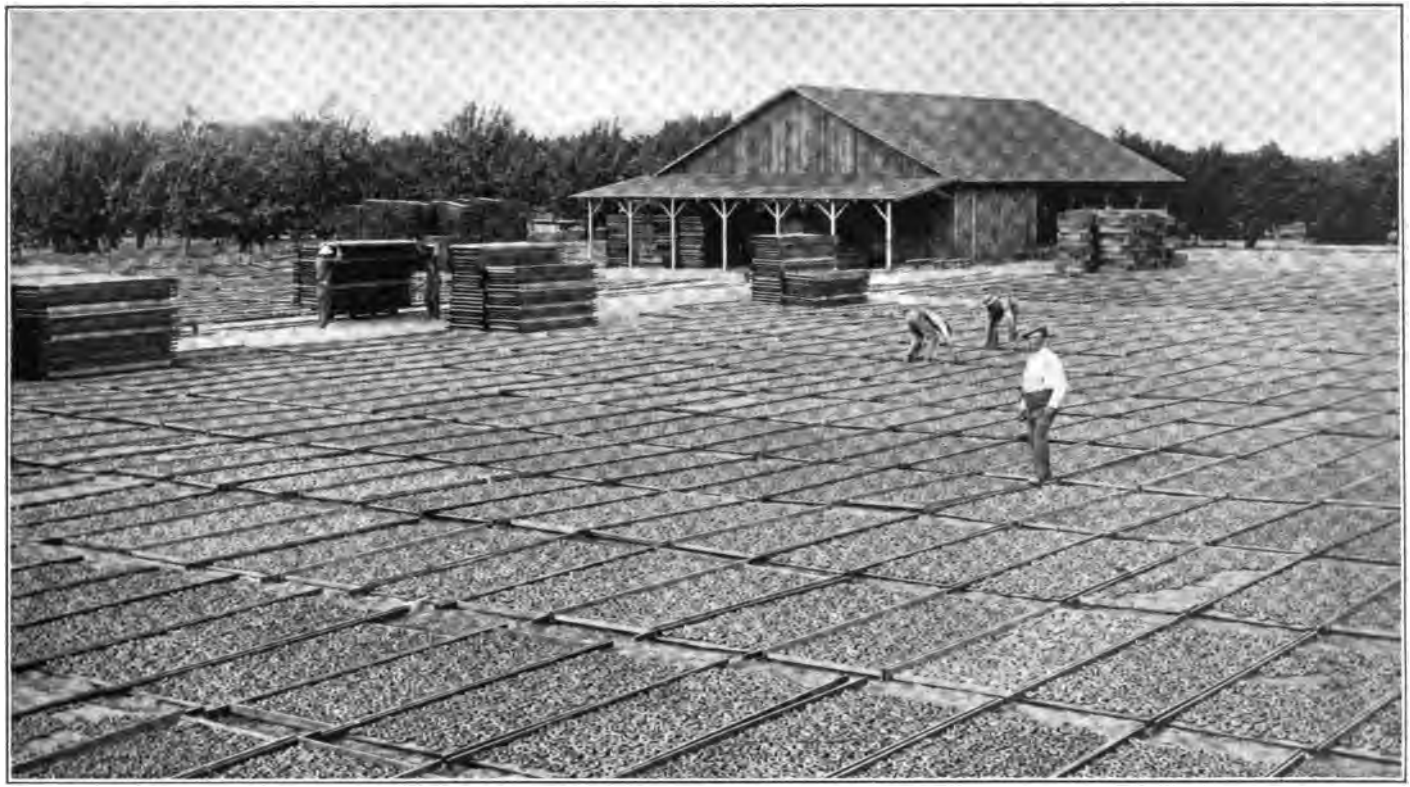


Photo. from American Forestry Magazine.

DRYING PEACHES IN CALIFORNIA

This shows fruit drying on a large scale. The structure of trays and arrangement of fruit are of interest. The shed in the background is used for the preparation of the fruit. Stacks of trays and lug boxes are also pictured.

will coöperate in making an economic and commercial success of the process so as to help establish a permanent market with the American people for dried foods. In order to do this it is necessary, first to educate the people of this country to the value and the use of such products, and, second, to have the dehydrated foods of such attractive appearance and palatability and of a price so comparable with the average price of the products in their undried form, that they may be marketed in paying quantities.

The federal government and the states, by conducting propaganda directed toward a general use of dried fruits and vegetables, would be performing a needed service toward the preservation of health, with increased economy to all concerned. Advertising on the part of private operators, can be done only in so far as it pays them, and it would take several years and millions of dollars to establish a general retail sale of dried food articles.

Furthermore it is necessary to establish standards. It would be a serious error to allow an inferior class of products to be put forward at this time. The movement would receive a decided check. Commercially, dried vegetables should contain a given percentage of moisture, scientifically correct; they should be packed in proper containers, and stored in cool places. So prepared and handled, dried foods will be 100 per cent. free from spoilage. Again, blanching is expensive in commercial drying, and its omission necessitates very thorough drying of products to insure their preserva-

tion. Some products, however, such as Irish potatoes, require blanching before drying in order that the dried product may be satisfactorily utilized. These do not "come back" well if dried without blanching. In getting these new foods on the market, therefore, it is desirable that the government draw up strict regulations, just as it has done for other foods through the national pure food laws.

CHAPTER XVIII

THE FUTURE OF DEHYDRATION

Tall Oaks From Little Acorns Grow

"DEHYDRATION has come to stay in this country and, while it may still be regarded as in the experimental stage, those who are most familiar with the problems of food production and conservation are firm in the opinion that we are seeing only the beginning of what is sure to expand into an enormous and most important industry." This is the statement of an international food expert, a man who probably knows more on the subject of dried foods than any other authority in the United States. It was made in a recent letter to the National War Garden Commission, by Lou D. Sweet, president of the Potato Association of America, popularly known as the "Potato King." Mr. Sweet was selected by Mr. Hoover as head of the dehydration section of the United States Food Administration, and has more recently, in association with Major S. C. Prescott, U. S. A., been enlisted in the government development of dehydration.

While the drying of food, like some of the other lost arts, is almost as old as the human race itself, still its value and its importance have been brought to the fore by the European war. Necessity has meant the development of an industry which was well-nigh extinct. War gardening and the home production of food have

called the attention of the country and its people to the merit of drying as a form of vegetable and fruit conservation. The spread of the drying idea made satisfactory progress during the second season of war gardening in the United States. While there was no general practice of the method, nevertheless a fair beginning was made which is bound to lead to widespread and more rapid growth along this line in the future. The seed has been sown; the home food producers of the United States have seen the advantages offered by this means of saving food, and more and more of them are certain to practice it.

The process is really very old, and has been used at times by almost every people in the world. The skill of the squaw in drying corn and the few fruits and vegetables which the American aborigine possessed was all that stood between the Indian family and starvation in the long, cold winters when game was scarce. Our grandmothers made toothsome pumpkin pies from the dried product, while they decorated the attic and the kitchen with long rows of dried apples and peaches. From the Indians they learned also to dry berries and other small fruits. They possessed no glass jars and few of the conveniences which every modern housewife thinks essential; but they managed to vary the monotony of the winter diet with those dried products which cost them nothing but their work. The world has progressed rapidly in many respects during the past few generations. Science and industry have provided many household helps which could not be enjoyed fifty or a hundred years ago. It is obvious, however, that some

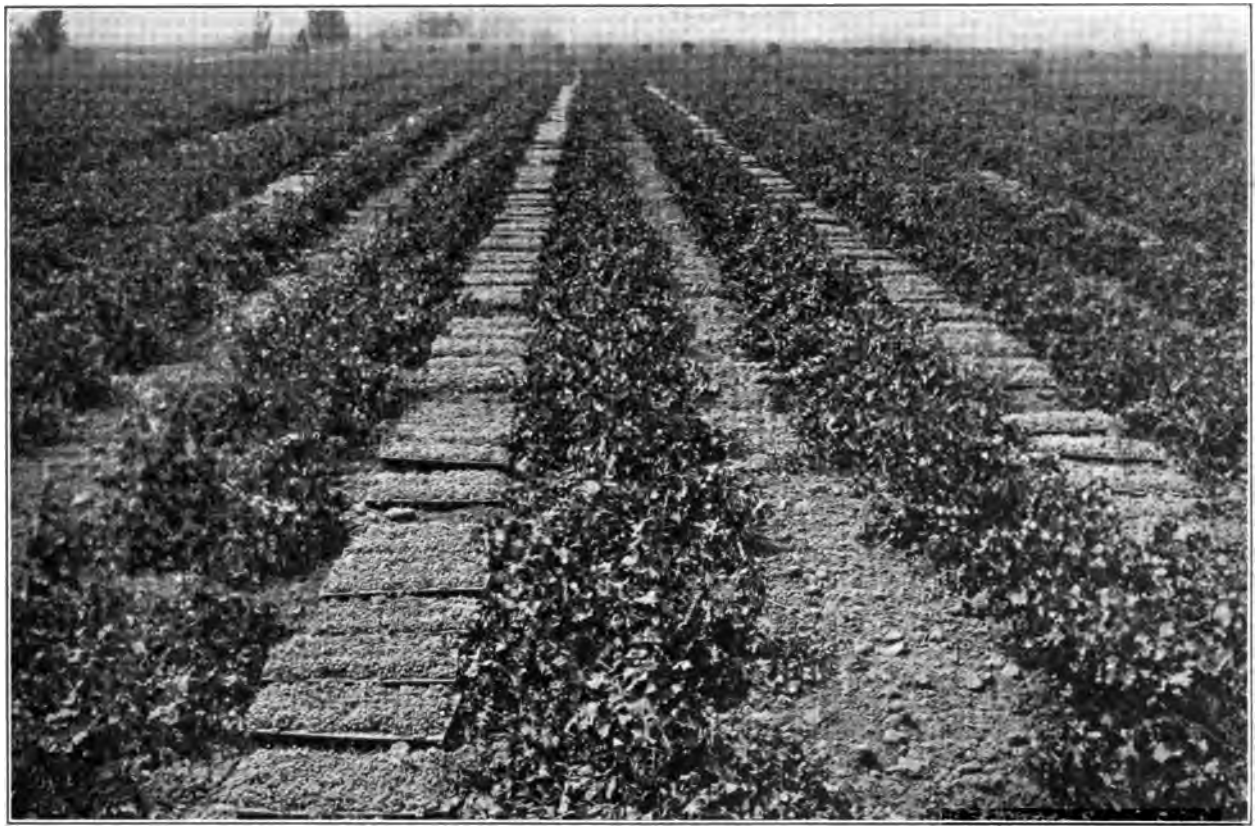


Photo. from American Forestry Magazine.

PREPARING RAISINS FOR THE MARKET

Raisin drying forms an important industry in California. In this picture the operation is shown in a large vineyard. The trays are raised slightly from the ground and supported on timbers.

of the habits and customs which were in vogue in the earlier days may now be taken up again with profit. Among these is the drying of vegetables and fruits. Thanks to the careful study and research which have been given to this subject, the work can now be performed with greater ease and with more certainty of success than was possible in the past.

Canning is the method which the average American housewife uses in laying by a store of garden products for winter consumption. A great impetus was given to this process by the Civil War; and now it seems as if another war were to be responsible for the introduction to the world, on a large scale, of another food conservation process, namely that of drying. As the possibilities, advantages and details of operation of this process become better known, it will take a larger and larger place both in the home and as a commercial proposition.

Important factors to be taken into consideration by the victory gardener in connection with food drying, are the saving in containers and in pantry-space. Almost any sort of a receptacle can be employed for the storage of dried food. Baking-powder cans and similar covered tins, pasteboard boxes having tight-fitting covers, strong paper bags, and patented paraffin-paper boxes which may be bought in quantities at slight expense, make excellent containers for this class of preserved food. They are not heavy and so do not require especially strong shelves. Besides they do not occupy much space—a thing which in many homes is at a premium.

Scientists have pointed the way and by their careful research have discovered methods by which potatoes and other vegetables can be dried so that they will retain all their original flavor and food value over long periods of time and under all conditions of weather and temperature. In going into the work on a commercial scale and in preparing such food for large bodies of people such as an army, where some of the products may not be consumed for many months and where they are likely to undergo many changes of temperature in being transported from place to place, it is necessary, of course, to observe scientific precision in the preparation and packing of the goods. For home consumption no such elaborate processes need be followed. This is why any household may prepare with ease its own supplies of this sort. As practiced in the home, vegetable and fruit drying is largely a matter of following with reasonable care a few simple rules. During the season of 1918 the National War Garden Commission distributed throughout the United States almost two million copies of its canning and drying book which gave all needed instructions. Thousands of war gardeners, both as individuals and through community effort, added a considerable amount to their winter store by vegetable and fruit drying.

It was during the Boer War that dried foods were used for the first time to any extent in the provisioning of an army. Large quantities of these goods were shipped from Canada to South Africa by the British War Office, and the experiment proved a complete success.

Some of the unused product was on hand at the beginning of the European war, and when opened, was found to be in a perfect state of preservation. The British soldiers in South Africa could not distinguish between the dried vegetables they were eating and the food to which they were accustomed, and they throve exceedingly well on it. John Hays Hammond, the internationally renowned mining engineer who took such a prominent part in the development of the South African territory and who is a member of the National War Garden Commission, is familiar with this matter. In discussing it he said:

The supplies of dried vegetables which were shipped from Canada to South Africa during the Boer War were found to be just as palatable, just as nutritious, as any of the other rations. I doubt if a single one of the men could have told the difference between this part of their mess and the other edibles that were furnished them. Certainly this is borne out by what a close friend of mine, Dr. Charles L. Lindley, of Lakewood, New Jersey, himself born in South Africa and an army surgeon during Lord Robert's campaign there, recently told me of the experiment. His experience with dried vegetables confirms every claim that can be made for them as a valuable part of a soldier's rations.

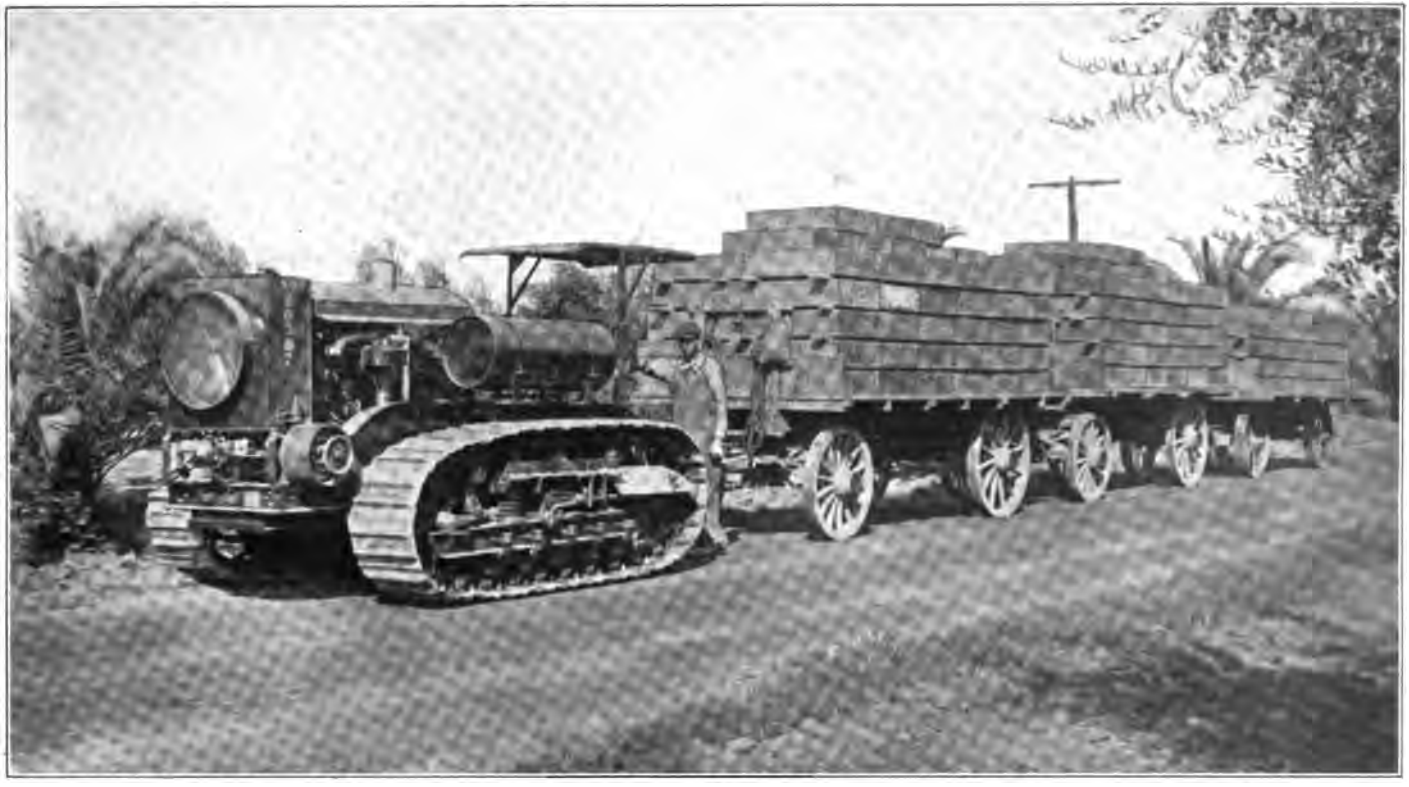
It was largely due to the successful results obtained during the Boer War that the British War Office was led to adopt dried vegetables as part of the soldier's supply during the recent war. Since the outbreak of the European struggle the British and French governments have purchased no less than 50,000,000 pounds of dried foods

from Canada alone. Following their example the Quartermaster-General's Office of the United States War Department prepared to make similar use of this kind of food. In the spring of 1918 the army used 14,000,000 pounds of dehydrated goods, and later an order was placed with American and Canadian food driers for more than 40,000,000 pounds to be delivered before July 1, 1919.

The use of food that is recognized as a valuable army ration and as a war-time economy, is to be encouraged in normal times. The same reasons which made it practical and economical during the war will be arguments in favor of its continued and increased use. Certainly for many years to come, just how many nobody can say, food will be a world problem. In the solution of this problem dried food can and should play a constantly growing part.

The expert testimony in favor of dehydration is well summed up in a statement by David Fairchild, agricultural explorer in charge of the Office of Foreign Plant Introduction, United States Department of Agriculture. He has made this statement:

I believe the American public should learn to use dried vegetables, because in so doing great economies can be brought about in this country as they have been in Germany and Austria. The dehydrated vegetable saves transportation of both bulky fresh vegetables and bulky canned vegetables, not only those portions which are actually consumed but the waste which forms so large a part of the garbage of our cities. The dehydrated



BOXES FOR DRYING RAISINS

A load of 190 "sweat boxes" for curing raisins being hauled by caterpillar tractor to a big vineyard at Dinuba, California, where many tons of this fruit are dried and prepared for the market every year. Practically every kind of garden vegetable can be conserved by drying, as well as the few well-known fruits to which the American people are accustomed.

vegetable saves tin, since it can be put up in paper containers. It saves labor in the small home where the convenience of its use is apparent. It saves in wastage at the point of production and in the home. We little appreciate how gigantic the wastage of fresh vegetables is, and this wastage is largely because the vegetables are too cheap on the market in the height of the season to warrant a grower to ship them to it, and it is here that dehydration should play an important part.

There is nothing in the vegetable situation which confronts us to-day to assure us of cheaper vegetables in the future. We must not forget the small proportion of women gardeners in this country as compared with the women field-workers of France and Germany and even England, and vegetables require a large amount of hand labor to produce. Where is the labor coming from?

Possessing as we do such remarkable food as Indian corn, and having learned, as we have, to like it, there would seem to be a danger that we depend too fully upon it and, with the increasing price of vegetables, fail to realize that as we increase our corn consumption we require greater quantities of butter, milk, meat, fats, or vegetables to supply the food essentials lacking in corn. As the fresh vegetables become scarcer on the markets, it would become more and more difficult to do this, and the result predicted by dietitians is malnutrition among those who think they cannot afford to buy the vegetables. We should learn to use these dried vegetables to supplement the grain ration.

It is easy to see a hundred reasons why we should not eat dried vegetables, but it is unscientific and unpatriotic to shut our eyes to their possibilities. As a people we should move ahead into the field of dehydrated vegetables, develop it, discard what is not good,

hold what is good, and make it a means to stabilize those vegetables the price of which fluctuates now in a most unsatisfactory and dangerous way.

While I believe that we should consider first our own attitude toward dried vegetables and work out the best methods of using them for ourselves, we are warranted in believing, as conditions are at present in Europe, that there will be need of large quantities of all kinds of foods, including these dried vegetables, in those countries which are now famine-stricken. Although it is undoubtedly true that the German troops are using enormous quantities of dried vegetables, it is not demonstrated to what extent they will be employed in the feeding of our own boys. No civilian will take the attitude that the boys should be fed on food which he himself refuses to eat. If we learn to use them extensively, it is a practical certainty that our own armies will employ them extensively, as have the armies of Great Britain, France, and Germany.

Inspired, therefore, as an emergency measure to meet war's demand for more complete utilization of the nation's food supply, the drying of garden products must continue. It must save summer crops for winter use and help to care for the needs of the nations which have been starving. It must take its place as a regulator in the world's problem of food supply and demand.

"There seems to be no reason," says Mr. Sweet, of the United States Food Administration, in his communication to the National War Garden Commission, "why the abundance of one season or locality should not be made available by this means for periods of scarcity or for regions where fresh fruits and vegetables

cannot be obtained. Every encouragement, therefore, should be given to home drying, in order that the people may become familiar with the excellence of the products which may be prepared by this method, and to save the vast quantities of excellent food which now go to waste for lack of adequate methods of conservation."

The simple form of drying by artificial heat and by heat of the sun in thousands of American homes and in no less degree the science of dehydration as developed on a commercial scale, has shown its economic worth. The art as practiced to-day owes much to scientific research. This does not mean that the methods are complicated. Science has simplified them and given greater assurance of successful results. It has been estimated that the United States could save $19,000,000 annually in its transportation bills by the drying of its garden products. The saving of only a portion of this large sum would be worth while, and it would be not alone in the saving of money but in the release of much valuable freight-car space for other purposes that the nation would probably receive important benefit.

Every victory gardener or home food producer in the United States can help to save part of this money and freight-space. It might not be just to ask them to do this if elaborate preparations and large outlay of money were necessary. As these are not required every person who has a vegetable plot should conserve some of the surplus product if it would otherwise go to waste. Practically all vegetables and fruits can be dried. The process is simple. The cost is slight. In every home

the necessary outfit in its simplest form is already at hand. Effective drying may be done on plates or dishes placed in the oven, with the oven door partly open. It may be done on the back of the kitchen stove with these same utensils while the oven is being used for baking. It may also be done on sheets of paper or lengths of muslin spread in the sun and protected from insects and dust.

The earth lives by the light and the heat of the sun. This beneficent power should be put to work by the victory gardeners of the United States, and thus will this country gain a rightful and legitimate "place in the sun." Luther Burbank, a member of the National War Garden Commission, says:

How few people are aware of the scientific fact that all food and all clothing without any exception are first produced by the action of sunlight on the foliage of plants, and that but for the wonderful chemical engines installed in the foliage of plants no life could exist upon the earth; and only by the improvements which have been made in plants and animals which subsist on the productions of plants has our present civilization been made possible.

This gift from Heaven which makes the plants to grow and without which there could be no production, should be utilized also in the conservation of food.

CHAPTER XIX

COÖPERATION OF THE PRESS

Vital Help Given by the Newspapers and Periodicals of America

THE printed word, the most powerful force known to civilization, made war gardens possible. In no other way could they have been made to multiply so rapidly in all parts of the land. From printer's ink to parsnips and parsley is a long jump; but the newspapers and magazines made that jump along with the others which they made for Liberty Loans, the Red Cross, and various other war-work campaigns. When the shadow of war fell across America, and before the actual declaration of war, the National War Garden Commission sent out the first rallying call to the home food producers. The newspapers and magazines spread the call freely. General Pershing later said, "Keep the Food Coming"; and the publications heard that call, too, and relayed it to their readers.

The "Soldiers of the Soil" wanted instruction and they wanted it quickly. Prompt action was necessary that

their service in the "garden trenches" might be effective. There was only one way in which the message of the war garden and the necessary instructions could be carried to all the people with the speed demanded. This was through the press of the country and the printed page. Any other plan of distributing the appeal and the instructions would have been far too slow to be effective and furthermore would have involved prohibitive expense, if it could have been done at all.

How much of a debt of gratitude the nation owes to its patriotic editors it probably will never be able to realize fully, but it does know that without their wholehearted support and their loyal assistance it would never have been able to arouse the people of the United States as a whole to the strenuous efforts which they exerted to back up the government and the fighting forces. No note of appreciation to the editors of the country could be over-generous in its praise or too liberal in its expression of heartfelt thanks for their substantial aid.

When the Commission began its campaign it realized that it must depend largely upon the support of the newspapers and the magazines. Well-planned and well-directed publicity was necessary to get its message

THE KNIGHTS OF PRINTERS INK HEARD THE CALL FOR FOOD

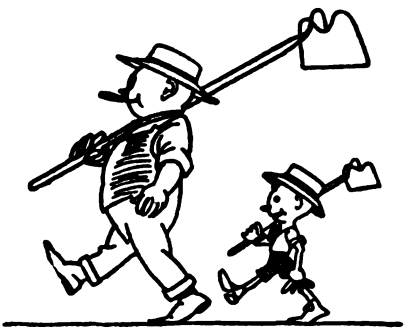
Throughout the land every sort of publication coöperated with the National War Garden Commission in the drive for home food production. Here are but a few of the headlin that show how the press patriotically responded to the call.

to the people of the United States, and the promptness of the editors in recognizing the vital importance of home food production and their patriotic readiness in conveying the appeal to their millions of readers should be recorded in letters of gold among the nation's permanent records. The Commission has expressed its appreciation to many of them individually and it takes this further and more lasting means of acknowledging its thanks, and the thanks of the nation, for their enthusiastic service.

While space became more and more at a premium as the war progressed, the newspapers and magazines continued to contribute as liberally as they could of their columns to the cause of food production "F. O. B. the Kitchen Door." They stimulated and encouraged the "city farmer" to plant for freedom and they furnished him with the necessary data and instruction, provided by the Commission. The great majority of those who were eager to raise food and help feed the army were amateurs at

START YOUR GARDEN WITH A PLAN

the business. They had to be shown how. They were willing but they needed guidance. The number of competent instructors was limited, and it became necessary for the war gardener to look to the daily press for information telling him what to do. In this the press did not fail him. Almost unanimously, from one end of the country to the other, the newspapers daily published material furnished by the Commission. If this could be totaled it would run into tens of thousands of columns.



HOE FOR THE GARDEN

After calling the attention of the country to the vital need of war gardening, the Commission prepared a series of short garden lessons telling the home food growers what, when, and how to plant. These lessons were brief and shorn of technicalities but authentic, and gave the gardener all he needed to know. They were sent to the newspapers on news-clip sheets, a dozen or more lessons on each sheet, while a

DAYLIGHT SAVED - A GARDEN MADE

few short general stories on war gardening were also included on the sheet. This method of sending out the material was economical from every standpoint and effected a great saving of paper. It was highly approved by the War Industries Board as a valuable conservation scheme in paper economy.

As occasion demanded news stories which were of interest only to a particular city, locality, or state were sent out to the papers of that section but not duplicated throughout the country. Thus New York did not receive material in which none but Illinois or California readers would be interested. In similar manner short lessons telling how to can and dry vegetables and fruits, and items of news value calling attention to the urgent need for this form of food conservation, were sent to the newspapers of the country; and they met with the same generous response from the editors. One

of the most helpful features of the newspapers was the coupon box which hundreds of them ran during the entire garden and canning season, in which the readers were informed that by filling out the coupons and mailing them to the Commission they would receive free copies of the war vegetable gardening or the canning and drying books. Hundreds of thousands of newspaper readers took advantage of this opportunity and were sent copies of the instruction books.

In addition to printing the short garden and canning lessons and numerous items of news value, the papers published Sunday feature stories. The Commission furnished pictures and data for these articles, with photographs showing types of gardens and how the war gardeners were getting to work in various parts of the country. Soon after the Commission was organized it began to receive requests from feature and magazine writers and editors

TYPICAL HEADINGS FROM NEWS SHEETS

The Commission in sending out garden data to the newspapers helped the editor by preparing the copy in as near the style desired as possible. This was a big help to busy "copy" desks.

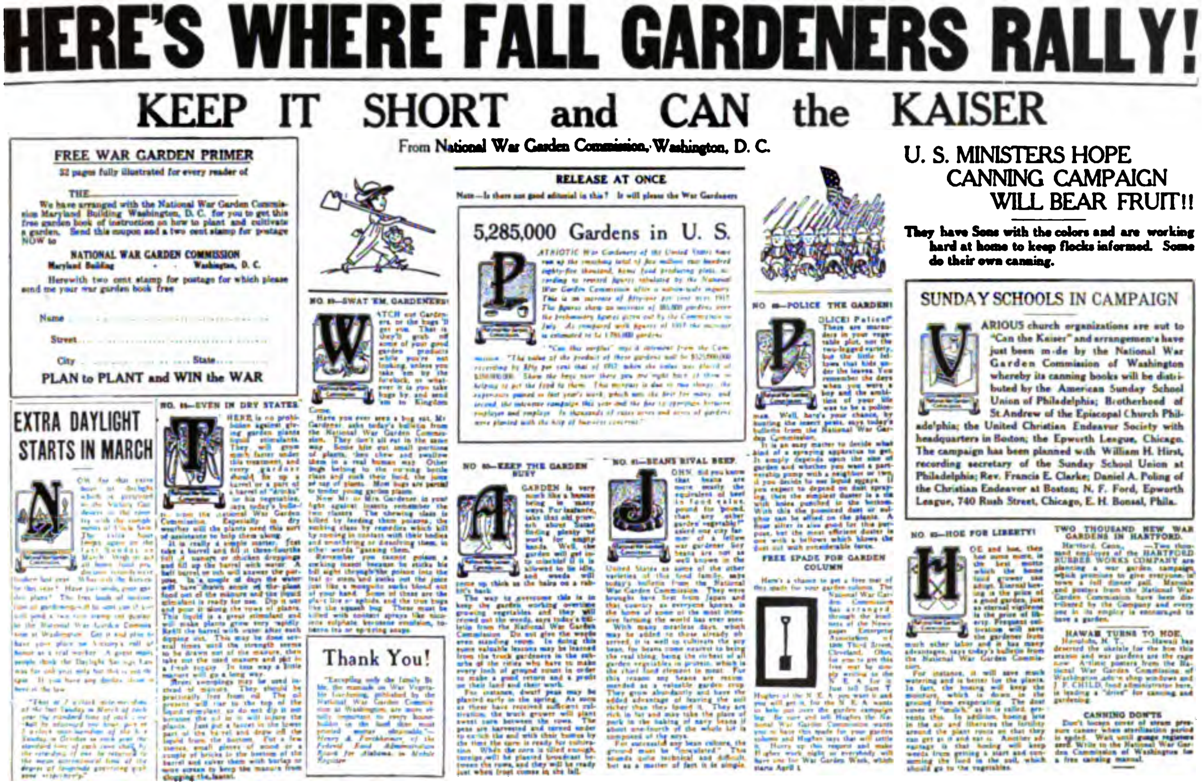
throughout the United States for illustrations and material which could be used in stimulating the home food-growing enterprise throughout the territory in which their publications circulated. These requests were promptly met. The Commission was able to do this because it gathered in a short time and had on file in the Washington office a large collection of interesting photographs as well as much data about war gardens, showing what they could do and were doing. Many of the magazine writers called personally at the headquarters and were delighted and surprised at the readiness with which their needs were filled. They went away with envelopes filled with pictures and materials for their stories.

THE MESSAGE

Some of the publicity matter

went out to the newspapers in "mat" or matrix form, so that it was necessary for the paper to make only the stereotype from which the printing was to be done. The material which the Commission sent out in this way included reproductions of its several posters, little comics on gardening and canning, a step-by-step series of illustrations explaining in detail the cold-pack process of canning vegetables and fruits; initials to be used in dressing up the garden page; and a number of prose poems with small illustrations inserted. All this material was used very widely.

The news-service organizations and illustrated-feature syndicates used many stories on war-garden work. In this way thousands



HERE'S WHERE FALL GARDENERS RALLY!

KEEP IT SHORT and CAN the KAISER

From National War Garden Commission, Washington, D. C.

FREE WAR GARDEN PRIMER

32 pages fully illustrated for every reader of

THE ....

We have arranged with the National War Garden Commission Maryland Building Washington, D. C. for you to get this free garden book of instruction on how to plant and cultivate a garden. Send this coupon and a two cent stamp for postage NOW to

NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION
Maryland Building - - Washington, D. C.

Herewith two cent stamp for postage for which please send me your war garden book free

Name ....

Street ....

City .... State ....

PLAN to PLANT and WIN the WAR

EXTRA DAYLIGHT STARTS IN MARCH

NO. 16—EVEN IN DRY STATES

NO. 15—SWAT 'EM, GARDENERS!

Thank You!

RELEASE AT ONCE

Note—Is there not good editorial in this? It will please the War Gardeners

5,285,000 Gardens in U. S.

NO. 60—KEEP THE GARDEN BUSY

NO. 61—BEANS RIVAL BEEF

NO. 59—POLICE THE GARDEN!

FREE SPADE FOR GARDEN COLUMN

U. S. MINISTERS HOPE CANNING CAMPAIGN WILL BEAR FRUIT!!

They have Sons with the colors and are working hard at home to keep flocks informed. Some do their own canning.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS IN CAMPAIGN

VARIOUS church organizations are out to "Can the Kaiser" and arrangements have just been made by the National War Garden Commission of Washington whereby its canning books will be distributed by the American Sunday School Union of Philadelphia; Brotherhood of St. Andrew of the Episcopal Church Philadelphia; the United Christian Endeavor Society with headquarters in Boston; the Epworth League, Chicago. The campaign has been planned with William H. Hirst, recording secretary of the Sunday School Union at Philadelphia; Rev. Francis E. Clarke; Daniel A. Poling of the Christian Endeavor at Boston; N. F. Ford, Epworth League, 740 Rush Street, Chicago, E. H. Bonsal, Phila.

NO. 62—HOE FOR LIBERTY!

TWO THOUSAND NEW WAR GARDENS IN HARTFORD

HAWAII TURNS TO HOE

CANNING DON'TS

HOW NEWSPAPER "COPY" WAS SENT OUT

This is a sample of the way in which the Commission sent out "clip sheets" to the newspapers of the United States. A number of short lessons on gardening, canning and drying and a few news items were contained on each sheet.

of papers were served by the *Associated Press*, the *United Press*, the *International News Service*, the *Western Newspaper Union*, the *Newspaper Enterprise Association*, the *News Feature Service*, the *International Syndicate*, and other important agencies. The Washington correspondents of the leading dailies of the country sent to their home papers, by wire and mail, items of national or local interest telling of the activities of the war gardeners. The value of this patriotic service in furthering home food production cannot be over-estimated. Some of the largest and most influential newspapers in the country gave most prominent place on many occasions to the Commission's call to the home food producers and conservers of America. The Philadelphia *North American*, for instance, reproduced the

"Can the Kaiser" poster on the front page in a space covering nearly one-quarter of the entire page. The Boston *Post* used both this and the "Sow the Seeds of Victory" poster on one page, devoting a large part of the space to these striking designs. The *Garden Magazine* used reproductions of the posters as cover illustrations on two of its monthly issues. The *Forecast* also made use of the Verrees poster as a cover design. The *Diario de la Marina*, of Havana, Cuba, one of the foreign papers to which copies of the posters and several articles on war gardening in the United States had been sent, published a "smash" layout of the Flagg Victory Garden poster covering almost the entire front page. *Zig-Zag*, of Santiago, Chile, also used it as a cover design.

During the campaigns of both 1917 and 1918 the newspapers of this country gave the Commission loyal backing. They knew the need of food and they saw what an asset the "city farmer" could be in this direction.

The most remarkable coöperation was given in New York City when virtually every one of the big metropolitan dailies was running the Commission's garden hints and suggestions simultaneously. The papers thus helping included the *Evening World*, the *Globe*, the *Evening Post*, the *Journal*, the *Evening Telegram*, and the *Brooklyn Eagle*. On Sundays some of the papers regularly ran an entire page or two of war-garden material.

GARDENING IS A DUEL

In the United States a large number of the foreign-language newspapers, Italian, French and others, told their readers of the service they could perform through war-gardening and the conservation of the surplus products thus grown. Several summaries of the war-garden movement in the United States were translated into French, Spanish, Italian, and Portugese and sent by the Commission to leading publications throughout Latin America, Canada, Australia, Europe, and the Orient. They appeared, for instance, in such widely separated papers as

FOR PATRIOTIC REASONS

the Alexandria (Egypt) *Gazette*, and *Le Messager de São Paulo*, Brazil; and were published from Calcutta, India, and Tokio, Japan, to Montreal, Canada. The Asahi *News*, a Japanese newspaper of Seattle, gave hearty support to the Commission and published much of its advice and instruction to gardeners and home canners.

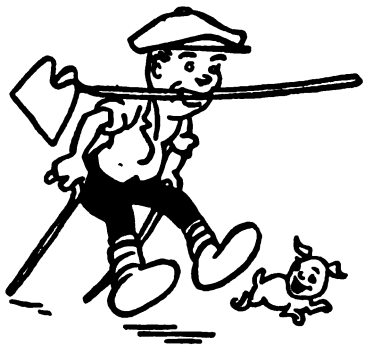
Magazines of general interest and many house-organs coöperated in the campaign and published articles dealing with various phases of war gardening. This applied to conservation as well as to the productive phase of the work. As an illustration, the *Ladies' Home Journal* published an entire page of pictures of women who had been blue-ribbon winners and had received the Commission's National Capitol Prize Certificates for excellence in canning garden products. The *Outlook* printed from time to time a number of appreciations of the value of home food growing. The *Garden Magazine*, of Garden City, Long Island, used a number of stories on the subject and printed a monthly

WITH PICTURE AND TYPE THE PRESS URGED GARDENING

The coöperation of the newspapers and magazines in national service was one of the greatest patriotic demonstrations of the world war. This reproduction of clippings shows how data from the National War Garden Commission was printed.

page summarizing important and inspiring war-garden activities throughout the United States. The *Country Gentleman*, in addition to regular garden lessons, published several articles commending highly the work of the Commission. Similar helpfulness was extended by the *Nation's Business*, official publication of the Chamber of Commerce of the United States; the *Manufacturers' Record*, Baltimore; the *American City*, New York; the *Journal of the American Bankers' Association*; the *Missouri, Kansas & Texas Railway, Employés' Magazine*; *American Industries*, and many other trade and business papers. *House and Garden*, *Vogue*, and the *Touchstone* were among other high-class magazines which printed illustrated war-garden stories supplied by the Commission. The *World Court Magazine* is another example of this editorial coöperation. The *Century*, *Good Housekeeping*, the *National Magazine*, the *Survey*, the *Illustrated World*, the *People's Popular Monthly*, the *Illustrated Sunday Magazine*, the *Woman's World*, the *Rotarian*, the *Lone Scout*, *Forbes' Magazine*, *American Forestry*, the *Southern*

Lumberman, the *Christian Endeavor World*, the *Forecast*, and the *People's Home Journal*, and many others were among the publications that carried war-garden stories.



The *Literary Digest* printed a summary of the work accomplished and showed what Daylight Saving had done to further the efforts of the war gardener.

The manufacturer of plows or soda fountains, as well as the editor of a general-interest magazine, realized the value of home food production to his employés; and through their house-organs the heads of many industrial and business concerns spread the gospel of "Food F. O. B. the Kitchen Door." Trade publications of all kinds throughout the country carried garden lessons and inspirational articles urging their workers to produce food and thus help themselves and their country at the same time.

Some of them reproduced the Commission's posters in their magazines and used other material furnished them.

The work of coöperation with newspapers and periodicals was conducted by Russell T. Edwards, under the direction of Secretary Ridsdale.

Thus the magazines and the newspapers of the United States coöperated in making a success of the war-garden movement. Without their help this could not have been accomplished. What was brought about with their aid shows the power of the printed page. It spread the message of the war garden to the millions. It made possible the enlistment of a vast army of war gardeners and of home canners and dryers. It brought into action the patriotic will of the American people to do full share in the battle for international freedom and world-wide democracy. In short it was through the printed page that the war garden and home conservation were given their proper place among war-time activities.

Appendix

TWO OF THE VICTORY BOOKS ISSUED
BY THE COMMISSION

"WAR GARDENING," VICTORY EDITION, 1919

"HOME CANNING AND DRYING,"
VICTORY EDITION, 1919

Victory Edition 1919

WAR GARDENING

and Home Storage of Vegetables

Published by
National War Garden Commission
Washington, D.C.

WAR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

June 7, 1918.

NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Sirs:

The War Department finds much satisfaction in the creation of War Gardens at various army camps by the Conservation and Reclamation Division of the Quartermaster General's office. Food production at these camps has been the subject of some concern with the department. The large areas of tillable land within many of the military reservations have been regarded as offering potential food production on a large scale, and I feel that the army is to be congratulated that the utilization of this space has now taken concrete form.

Camp War Gardens will serve more than one useful purpose. The production of food at the mess door is of great importance in that it not only lessens the army's demand on the usual sources of supply but eliminates transportation as well.

To the National War Garden Commission I extend the thanks of the Department for its quick response to the appeal of the Quartermaster General's office for co-operation. Not confining itself to mere compliance with the letter of the request, the Commission entered fully into its spirit. At a time when funds were not available through Government channels the Commission voluntarily provided seed, fertilizers and equipment which made possible the establishment of a War Garden of 300 acres or more at Camp Dix. For this generous contribution and for swift action to overcome the handicap of a late start I take pleasure in making this acknowledgment and in expressing the hope that the Camp Dix War Garden of the National War Garden Commission will prove an unqualified success.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) NEWTON D. BAKER,
Secretary of War.

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Baltimore, Maryland.
September 14, 1918.

NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION,
Maryland Building,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We wish to express to you our appreciation of your helpfulness in our war garden, canning and drying work in Maryland during the season of 1918. Your book on canning and drying has been of great value, while the canning outfits which you so kindly gave us made it possible for us to establish canning centers throughout the State, with results of far-reaching importance which could not have been otherwise accomplished. We are equally appreciative of your prompt and willing response to our request for the services of one of your trained investigators to assist in our war garden work. Your spirit of prompt and willing service is cordially appreciated.

Yours truly,

(Signed) EDWIN G. BAETJER,
Federal Food Administrator for Maryland.

PLAN OF GARDEN 50 by 75 feet, in which careful attention has been paid to proper relation of the season's crops and to a continuous supply of the more important vegetables.

Hot Bed	Cold Frame	Asparagus	Rhubarb

ARRANGEMENT OF SEASON'S CROPS

Peas, followed by late Tomatoes			
Peas, followed by Celery			
Onion Sets, followed by Turnips			
Corn, followed by Spinach			
Beans (bush), followed by Beets			
Beets, ½ row; Carrots, ½ row, followed by Corn			
Turnips, followed by Bush Beans			
Potatoes, followed by Spinach			
Spinach, followed by Potatoes			
Cabbage, with Lettuce and Radishes between, followed by Carrots			
Beans, Bush Lima			
Chard, ¾ row; Parsley, ¼ row			
Parsnips, ¾ row (radishes to mark row); Salsify, ¼ row			
Corn, followed by Kohlrabi, ½ row; Cauliflower, ½ row			
Peas, followed by Corn			
Beans, Bush Lima			
Early Potatoes, followed by late Cabbage			
Early Tomatoes			
Peppers, ½ row; Potatoes, Okra or Eggplant, ½ row			
Potatoes			
Potatoes			
Pole Lima Beans			
Pole Beans			
Corn			
Corn			
Corn			
Cucumbers	Squash (bush crook neck)	Squash (winter)	Musk-melon

Rows are 30 inches apart. If soil is very fertile rows may be closer.

Planting was begun at hotbed end of garden and plantings were made a few days apart to insure a constant supply of vegetables. Planting table on page 23.

MAKE YOUR WAR GARDEN A GARDEN OF VICTORY

By CHARLES LATHROP PACK, President
National War Garden Commission

AMERICA'S responsibility for the world's food supply did not stop with the ending of the war. In peace, as in conflict, this country must carry the burden of Europe's food problems. With the advent of peace these problems have become intensified. America is now expected to furnish the solution and this can be done only through the continued application of high pressure food production and unwavering food conservation.

For two years of war the War Gardens of America produced foodstuffs which helped establish the balance of power between starvation and abundance. In the spring of 1918, General Haig declared, "We stand with our backs to the wall." Of that call to the civilized world no phase was more vital than its interpretation and answer in terms of food. During that year the answer was given by the American people with true American spirit. The war gardeners of the United States responded with a vigor which carried the War Gardens over the top to victory. By the addition of more than five hundred million dollars of crop value to this country's food production they made it easier for America to feed her own people and the people of France and Belgium.

The Victory Garden is now as vital as the War Garden. Peace brings new food needs. In reclaiming territory from the enemy France and Belgium have greatly increased the number of their people who must be fed. By restoring these former expatriates to citizenship these countries have also assumed the burden of feeding them. This will mean a vast increase in the demands on America as the source of Europe's food supply in 1919. Europe cannot feed herself during the first year of reconstruction; Russia faced famine conditions in the winter of 1918-1919, and Mr. Hoover says that the world's food shortage will last for another seven years.

The war gardener's responsibility, therefore, did not end with the coming of peace. His War Garden must now be made a Victory Garden in the full sense of the words. It must help solve the problem of feeding people rendered helpless by years of ruthless and terrible war.

The garden crop of 1919 must be even greater than that of 1918, and there must be more canning and drying for winter use. The people of America have a real duty to perform in this respect and the nation counts confidently on full measure of individual response.

PART I

WAR GARDENING MANUAL

As a result of emergency created by war the home garden of America has become an institution of world-wide importance. The planting and growing season of 1918 demonstrated that the products thus raised are essential to the feeding of the people of the United States and the Allied Nations. Under the impetus given by the National War Garden Commission the people of this country last year produced a crop valued at $520,000,000 in gardens cultivated in backyards, on vacant lots and on other land previously untilled—the patriotic gift of the war gardens to the nation.

Peace can in no wise diminish America's responsibility for feeding Europe. The recovery of vast areas of devastated country in France and Belgium greatly increases the number of people to be fed and adds heavily to the food burden of America. Because of this the Victory Garden is no less necessary than the War Garden.

WAR GARDENS HELP SOLVE TRAFFIC PROBLEM

War-time brought the most serious traffic congestion the United States has ever seen. This condition has no meaning more significant than that the gardens of this year must do even more than those of 1918 in freeing the overburdened railroads from the need for transporting food products. With food shortage threatening the Allied Nations and with railroad congestion as an added factor, the war garden results of the coming season must be considerably greater even than the vast yield of last year.

COMMUNITY GARDENING

Excellent results are obtained through co-operative gardening work. If several families join forces they can reduce the cost of gardening in time, labor and money. Families having adjoining or neighboring garden plots may use one set of tools. To prevent clash of convenience it is well to have an understanding in advance as to the time when each gardener is to have the use of particular tools. By this arrangement it is possible to have complete equipment at expense much less than if each gardener bought his own. Money can also be saved in buying seeds, fertilizers and spraying materials by clubbing together and gaining advantage of the lower prices for large lots.

One of the advantages of doing community work is that it is possible for the gardeners interested in the project to employ a man and a team to prepare their gardens by plowing and harrowing. In this way the man and team can be kept busy throughout the day and the expense to each gardener will be slight.

On a larger scale this principle should be applied to garden plots on tracts of vacant land allotted to individuals in or near cities or towns. Each plot in such a tract is a separate garden, belonging to the individual or family to whom allotted. In many instances the municipal authorities, the mayor's war garden committee or some similar local organization, will provide an expert to supervise work on community gardens of this character. This expert will give advice and instructions as to preparation, planting and cultivation and on other technical subjects.

If an expert is not provided in this way it is wise for the gardeners to club together and arrange for one at their own expense, if the project is large enough to make this possible without too great individual cost. The help of an expert is of great value.

School children and parents may work together to good advantage on these garden plots. In some communities school authorities allow the children to spend a portion of the school hours, on stated days, in their garden work. Through co-operation with street cleaning departments a municipal government may arrange to deliver manure to war gardeners at nominal cost. In at least one important city this is done at a charge of $2 per load.

It is a good plan for municipal governments to arrange for lectures at school houses or other places on practical problems in gardening. This increases efficiency.

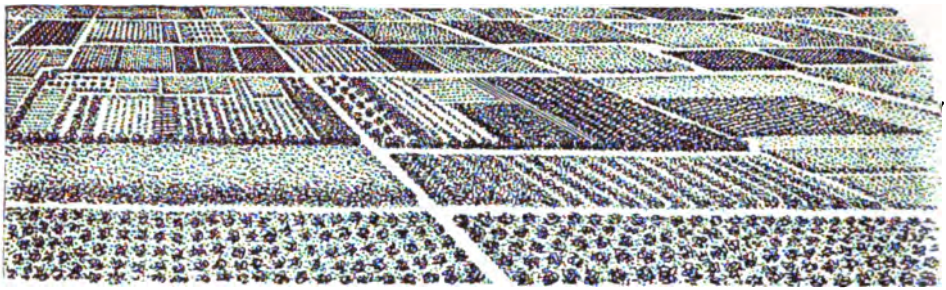


Fig. 1—A community garden which produced excellent results. The ground was provided by a manufacturing concern for its employes and the plowing and harrowing were done by the company. Expert supervisors directed the work. This supervision is an important help to successful gardening.

CORPORATION GARDENS

Manufacturing concerns, and other enterprises which employ labor on a large scale, may make valuable contribution to the national food supply by encouraging their employees to cultivate war gardens. Many concerns furnish large tracts of land, which are divided into individual garden plots. These plots are allotted to such employes as are willing to cultivate them. Each plot and everything it produces are recognized as the individual property of its cultivator. The company bears the expense of plowing and fertilizing these plots and employs an expert to have charge.

HOW TO HAVE A GOOD GARDEN

Garden Plan

Have a plan for your garden—drawn to scale on paper—before you start, to give proper order in planting and enable you to buy the right amount of seeds in advance while the selection is good.

Put in one general group small plants like beets, onions, lettuce, carrots, radishes and parsnips. In another general group put larger plants like corn, tomatoes and potatoes. Spreading ground vines, like melons and cucumbers, which need wider spacing, should be put in another general group. The reason for this grouping is that the various plants in a group need similar general treatment as well as spacing.

In making a plan provide space in which to enter costs and yield of the various crops. This will give you a complete record which will be useful another year. Another helpful use of the plan is that it will guide you in the rotation of next year's crops. For this purpose save your plan for next season.

In planning your garden formulate some definite plan as to what you will do with surplus vegetables. Detailed instructions for home storage of vegetables for winter use are given in Part II of this booklet. Detailed instructions for canning, drying, pickling and other forms of conservation are given in the Home Manual on these subjects issued by this Commission.

Sunshine

In the location of a garden it is not always possible to choose conditions as to sunlight. It is important, therefore, that in the arrangement of the various varieties of vegetables which are to be planted, due care should be given to providing the greatest exposure to the sun for those crops which need it most. Those plants which must ripen their fruits, such as tomatoes and eggplant, require the greatest amount of sunshine, while lettuce, spinach, kale and other leaf crops require relatively less. Foliage crops must have at least 3 hours of sunlight a day and plants which ripen fruits at least 5 hours a day. This is important.

Vary from Last Year's Plan

It is important to remember that plant diseases and insects are apt to thrive in a spot in which they have become established. For this reason those who make gardens this year should take care not to place the individual crops in the spot in which the same crops grew last year. Varying the arrangement of the garden in this way will reduce the danger from disease and insects. The same vegetables in the same place each year exhaust certain food elements, and reduced yields are sure to result.

SURPLUS PRODUCTS

At times, even with the best of planning, a gardener will find that his garden has matured more of some varieties of vegetables than can be used immediately. None of this excess should be wasted and there is no occasion for waste. If there is no ready market for the surplus it should be prepared for winter by either canning or drying. By modern methods either canning or drying may be done with little expense of time, trouble or financial outlay. By using the

cold-pack method as small a quantity as a single can or jar may be put up in a short time. With proper instructions it is possible for the housewife to dry a handful of peas or beans, sweet corn, a few sweet potatoes or turnips, or small quantities of many other vegetables with practically no expenditure of her time. Explicit and simple directions for canning and drying are given in the Manual issued by the National War Garden Commission.

THE SOIL AND MANURES

The back yard gardener must use the soil he has, but he can improve it if is poor, and he must do this as far as possible. Stable manure will help even the richest soil, and you are not likely to use too much of it. During a single season professional gardeners apply as much as six inches of it. From 400 to 600 pounds can be used to advantage on a plot 20 by 20 feet. Coarse manure should be applied and thoroughly plowed or spaded under in the fall. In the spring, fine, rotted manure is applied, just before plowing or spading, preceding the planting of any crop. If the ground is fairly rich, and well-rotted manure is scarce, the manure may be scattered in the row only, and should be mixed into the soil before the planting of seed.

Loam is the best garden soil. Sand, with manure, gives good results. Clay is hardest to work, but is greatly improved by well-rotted manure and vegetable matter—called humus. These should be well worked in with hoe and rake. Sifted coal ashes, entirely free from clinkers, will help loosen up clay when mixed into it, but will not remove an acid condition nor increase fertility.

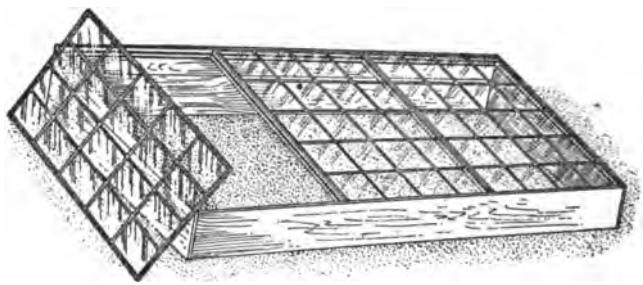


Fig. 2—This shows the construction of an outdoor cold frame. A hotbed is built in the same way, except that for the hotbed a pit and manure are required. See page 7 for directions for making cold frames and hotbeds.

Commercial Fertilizer

Many gardeners experience difficulty in obtaining supplies of well-rotted manure. In such cases commercial fertilizers should be used. Even where stable manure has been secured and worked into the soil it is well to supplement with moderate quantities of quick-acting fertilizer in order to give plants an early start and hasten maturity.

It is safest to rely upon the ready-mixed fertilizers usually obtainable at seed and hardware stores. Several specially prepared mixtures in convenient packages are now on the market. For large areas, 100 to 200-pound bags may be obtained. A mixture containing 3 to 4 per cent nitrogen and 8 to 10 per cent phosphoric acid is about right for the average garden. Your dealer will inform you on this point. If the fertilizer also contains potash, so much the better, but this year potash is scarce and high in price.

Where no manure is used the fertilizer should be spread over the surface of the finely prepared seed-bed at the rate of 5 pounds for a plot 10 feet square, just before planting. The surface soil should then be thoroughly raked so as to mix the fertilizer evenly to a depth of 2 inches. Never place seed or transplanted plants in direct contact with fertilizer. Thorough mixing of the fertilizer with the soil is essential to prevent injury of seed or roots.

Where manure has been worked into the soil, reduce the fertilizer application approximately one-half.

Tomatoes, eggplants, potatoes, spinach and some other crops requiring rather long growing seasons, are materially benefited by a second application of fertilizer when half grown. Side dressings of this kind should be scattered between the rows at the rate of four ounces (one-half pint) to 10 feet of row, when rows are spaced 2 feet apart; and pro rata for rows spaced a greater or lesser distance. To insure even distribution mix the fertilizer with fine, dry earth just before spreading.

Compost

Compost is especially desirable when quick growth is wanted. Compost is thoroughly rotted manure or organic material. It is prepared from six to twelve months before being used, by putting the manure and other material in piles having perpendicular sides and flat tops. These piles are usually from 2 to 4 feet high and 6 to 8 feet long.

Besides the usual waste of garden rubbish, there is a large waste of leaves, weeds and the skins and other unused portions of fruits and vegetables. These should all be thrown on the compost pile to decay for use on the

garden next spring. Destroy all plants which are diseased. The compost pile should be built up in alternate layers of vegetable refuse a foot thick and earth an inch or more thick. The earth helps to rot the vegetable matter when mixed with it. The top of the pile should be left flat that the rain may enter and help in the process of decay.

If the pile can be forked over once a month when not frozen and the contents well mixed together, they will decay quite rapidly and be in good usable condition in the spring. The compost may be either spread over the garden and plowed under or it may be scattered in the rows before the seed are sown. This is, of course, not as rich as stable manure, but it is a good substitute.

Compost is also used as a top dressing during the growing season for hastening growth.

In the cities and towns tons of leaves are burned every fall. This is a loss which ought to be prevented. These leaves properly composted with other vegetable waste and earth would be worth hundreds of dollars to the gardens next spring.

In planning a permanent garden, a space should be reserved near the hotbed or seed bed, and in this space should be piled, as soon as pulled, all plants which are free from diseases and insects. This applies to all vegetables and especially to peas and beans, as these belong to a group of plants which take nitrogen from the air, during growth, and store it in their roots. When these plants are decayed they will return to the soil not only much of the plant food taken from it during their growth but additional nitrogen as well. Nitrogen in the soil is necessary for satisfactory leaf growth. The material so composted should be allowed to decay throughout the winter, and when needed should be used according to the instructions given for using compost. The sweepings of pigeon lofts or chicken coops make valuable fertilizer. When cleaning roosts from day to day add ¼ as much acid phosphate as sweepings. When needed apply 1 pound of this mixture to every 5 square feet of ground, mixing it thoroughly into the soil.

Prepared sheep manure, where procurable at a reasonable price, is possibly the safest concentrated fertilizer. It should be used in small quantities rather than spread broadcast. Scatter it along the row before seed is sown or apply by mixing it with water in a pail, stirring the mixture to the consistency of thin mush, and pouring it along the rows of the plants.

Green Manure

Green manure is useful as a fertilizer. It consists of green plants turned under by plowing or spading. Rye is the most satisfactory for this purpose. If planted in July or August the crop may be turned under in the fall if early spring planting is desired. If planted later, it is usually turned under in the spring. When not turned under until spring, the growth will prevent the leaching of soluble plant food or the washing away of rich soil.

In sowing rye for this purpose, use at the rate of 1 pound of seed to a strip of ground 50 feet long and 10 feet wide. If the ground is rough or hard it should be cultivated just before the seed is sown, and then cultivated again to cover the seed. Sow the seed between the rows of crops not yet gathered. Rye is very hardy and will sprout even though there is frost nearly every night. At a cost of about 5 cents for a pound of seed a garden of 10 by 50 feet can thus be treated to an application of green manure. The green rye plants soon decay when turned under and answer the same purpose as a light dressing of manure.

Green manure, however, should not be relied upon to do the work of stable manure, as it does not provide phosphorus or potassium.

Lime

Land which has long been unused, or land in lawns, is apt to be sour. To remedy this condition apply evenly 1 pound of air-slaked lime or 2 pounds of ground limestone to every 30 square feet. The lime should be applied and raked in to a depth of 2 inches when the seed bed is being prepared in the spring. Instead of lime 2 pounds of unleached

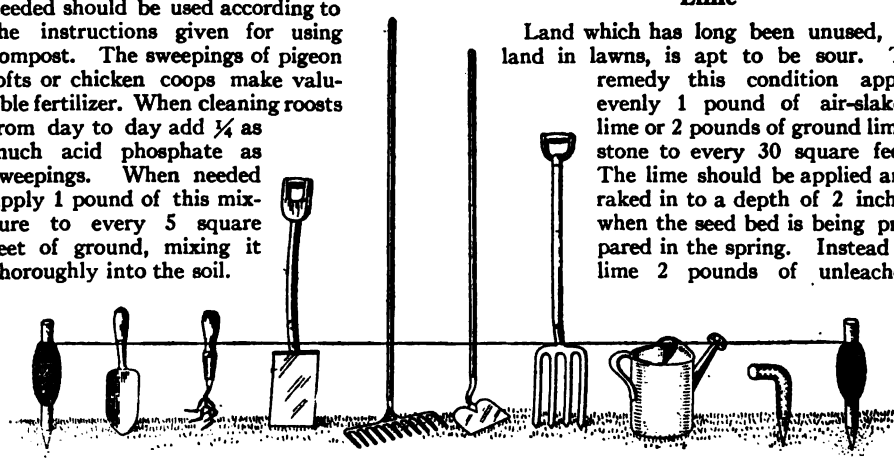


Fig. 3—Tools most commonly needed in a small garden. From left to right, between the balls of cord, they are: Trowel, weeder, spade, steel toothed rake, hoe, garden fork, watering pot and dibble.

wood ashes may be used. Do not apply lime at the same time as manure or mixed fertilizers, as it will cause loss of nitrogen.

As an addition to soil lime is of considerable value. Besides correcting acidity it changes the physical structure of the soil. One of the elements of lime is calcium, which is required for plant growth.

OUTDOOR HOTBEDS

For early planting a hotbed may be made, located in a sheltered spot with southern exposure, where it will receive a generous supply of sun. A width of 6 feet is desirable, and the length should be such as will enable the use of standard 3 by 6 foot hotbed sash. A simple, boxlike frame, 12 inches high in the rear and 8 inches high in front, will hold the sash and give a better angle for the rays of the sun.

Dig a pit 1½ to 2 feet deep, the size of the sash frame to be used. Line the sides of this with boards or planks, brick or concrete, and make a tile drain, or place stones on the bottom of the pit, to carry off surplus water. This pit is to be filled with fresh horse manure. The manure will require special treatment before being placed in the pit. It should be thrown into a pile and allowed to heat. When it has heated and is steaming fork it over into a new pile, throwing the outside material into the center. When the new pile has become well heated fork the material once more into a new pile. This will require from ten days to two weeks and is important in that it gets rid of excessive heat. After this process fill the pit with the manure, packed down firmly and evenly, level with the surface of the surrounding earth. On top of this manure make a covering of good garden loam 3 or 4 inches deep.

When the sash has been put in place the manure will generate heat, in addition to the heat that will be derived from the sun. After this heat has reached its highest point and dropped back to between 80 and 90 degrees F. the seed should be planted. Use the best seed obtainable. Until the seed germinate the hotbed should be kept shaded to hold moisture. This can be done by spreading over the sash strips of old carpet, heavy cloth or newspapers. After germination strong light will be needed. The plants must be watered each morning on clear days, and the sash left partially open for ventilation, as it is necessary to dry the foliage to prevent mildew.

Proper ventilation is essential to the production of strong, healthy plants. The sash should be raised during the warmest part of the day on the side opposite the direction from which the wind is blowing. By opening it in this way instead of facing the wind, the hotbed receives fresh air without receiving direct draft. On cold days raise the sash slightly three or four times a day for a few minutes only. In severe weather cover the beds with mats, straw or manure to keep in as much heat as possible. About two weeks before transplanting time the sash should be removed during the day to "harden" the plants. While in the hotbed the plants should be thoroughly watered, but the water should not reach the manure underneath. Early morning is the best time for watering, so that the plants will be dried before night.

An outdoor hotbed of this character should be started in the early spring—February or March.

THE COLD FRAME

A cold frame is useful for hardening plants which have been started in the hotbed. It is built like a hotbed, but without the pit or manure. It is built on the surface of the ground. Good, rich soil should be used and the soil kept slightly moist. In mild climates the cold frame may be used instead of a hotbed for starting plants. It is also used in the fall and early winter for growing lettuce, radishes, carrots, parsley, etc.

TOOLS

Not many implements are required for home gardening. The essentials are a spade or a garden fork, a hoe, a rake with steel teeth, a trowel, a dibble or pointed stick, and a line such as is used by masons, or a piece of common string or cord, to stretch between two stakes for marking off rows. In the case of hard packed earth a pick is useful for digging. For watering, a rubber hose is needed where pipe connections are available. Lacking this equipment a watering pot should be provided. A hand cultivator or wheel hoe is useful, especially in a large garden, and saves much time and labor in turning small furrows. With simple attachments it is used for stirring the soil and the removal of weeds.

PREPARATION OF SOIL

After the frost goes out test the ground by squeezing a handful of it. If it crumbles the soil is ready for spading. If it packs into a mud ball, the ground is still too wet and should not be worked.

Spade deeply, 8 to 15 inches, unless this latter depth turns up poor soil and buries the richer soil of the top. Pulverize the dirt deeply with hoe, spade and rake, breaking all clods on the surface. If a lawn roller is available it is useful for crushing clods. All vegetable growth on the surface, such as grass

or weeds, should be turned under, to rot and enrich the soil. This is especially important with ground that has had a growth of turf.

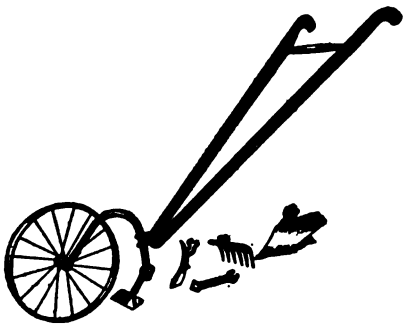


Fig. 4—Wheel hoe and hand cultivator, to be had with attachments such as plow, cultivator teeth, shovels and rake. A simple form may be made at home.

SELECTION OF CROPS

The home garden campaign for 1919 should be planned with a view to the production of the largest possible amount of food with the smallest possible outlay of seed and fertilizer. Authorities agree that the seed shortage is the worst the country has ever seen. The supply of fertilizers and natural manures is far below the normal. The demand for these materials is exceedingly great and war-time efficiency makes it vital that war-time conservation be practised in the use of them. To this end gardens should be devoted as far as possible to those crops which are most useful for food and in which the chances of failure are least to be feared.

In the selection of vegetables for the home garden preference should be given to the staple crops such as potatoes, beans, tomatoes, corn, onions, and cabbage. Crops of next importance, such as peas, carrots, parsnips, beets, squash, greens, turnips, cauliflower, radishes and celery, should be grown if space in the garden permits.

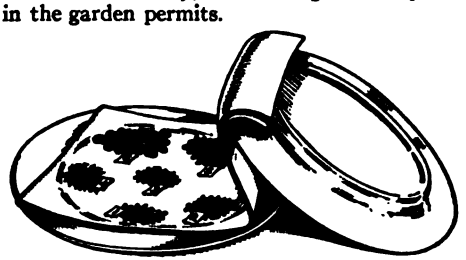


Fig. 5—Simple seed test, using plates and moist blotting paper or cloth. This is extremely useful.

Cauliflower, muskmelons, watermelons, onions from seed, asparagus and cucumbers are some of the plants that are most difficult to raise and these are not recommended to the amateur gardener.

Soils vary so much that serious attention should be given to the crops suited to the individual garden. This is a local question. Consult your local war garden committee's experts as to the best crops for your particular soil. Expert advice will prevent mistakes.

In many communities, last year witnessed an over-production of some vegetables that had to be used during the growing season. Many gardeners had larger crops of these than they could possibly use. Much waste resulted. To prevent this loss in seed, fertilizer, garden space, labor and foodstuffs every gardener should give especial attention to the selection of crops. Plant sparingly of those things which must be used as they mature and plant liberally of those things which may be saved for winter use by canning, drying or storing.

Fig. 6—Use an envelope for sowing seed. The picture shows seed already sown in some of the rows.

PROCURE SEED EARLY

Seed shortage was a handicap to many gardeners last year. In 1919 the planting of gardens will be increased and the demand for seed even greater than in 1918. It is important, therefore, that the home gardener should procure his supply of seed early—well in advance of planting time. Be sure to patronize a reliable dealer, as quality is vital.

Use Seed Sparingly

Home gardeners often plant seed thickly to make sure of a good stand. This is a wasteful method, excepting with such vegetables as will produce young plants which may be used as greens. The better way is to plant according to the directions given in the planting table.

The pronounced seed shortage this year makes it imperative that no seed be wasted.

Testing Seed

A simple test will give useful advance information of the germinating value of seed. This test is useful as enabling the gardener to determine whether or not seed have been properly cured and are otherwise in good condition. Seed which are too old or have been kept under unfavorable conditions are unsatisfactory.

HOW MUCH SEED TO BUY

The following amounts of seed will plant in each case a garden row 100 feet long. Measure your rows and buy accordingly. Also compare your figures with planting table on page 23.

String beans	½ to 1 pint	Eggplant	¼ ounce
Lima beans	½ to 1 pint	Kale, or Swiss chard	½ ounce
Cabbage	¼ ounce	Parsley	¼ ounce
Carrot	1 ounce	Parsnip	½ ounce
Cauliflower	1 packet	Vegetable oyster (salsify)	½ ounce
Celery	¼ ounce	Onion sets (bulbs)	1 quart
All squash	½ ounce	Onion seed	1 ounce
Beets	2 ounces	Peas	1 to 2 pints
Sweet corn	½ pint	Radish	1 ounce
Lettuce	½ ounce	Spinach	1 ounce
Muskmelon	½ ounce	Tomatoes	¼ ounce
Cucumber	½ ounce	Turnip	½ ounce

1 or 2 pecks of early potatoes and ½ to 1 bushel of late potatoes are enough to plant to supply four persons.

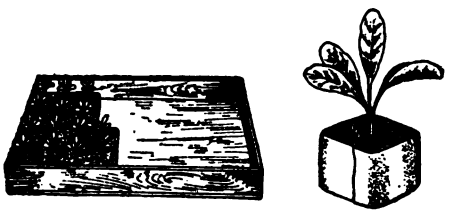


Fig. 7—A paper band folded into the form of a berry box, without bottom, is a good holder for indoor seed planting. The picture shows how these are placed side by side in a flat box.

To test plant 25 to 50 seed of each variety in an indoor seed box, or place between moist blotters or cloth between two plates. (Fig. 5.) Germination should take place within 2 to 8 days and the number of seedlings which grow will show the percentage of germination.

The seedlings should be kept for planting to prevent waste.

The standard adopted by the United States Department of Agriculture for seed germination is as follows:

SHOULD PRODUCE 60 to 80 PER CENT:

Celery, Parsley, Salsify, Eggplant, Parsnip.

SHOULD PRODUCE 80 TO 85 PER CENT:

Asparagus, Okra, Spinach, Carrot, Onion, Cauliflower, Pepper.

SHOULD PRODUCE 85 TO 90 PER CENT:

Corn (sweet), Lettuce, Squash, Cress, Melon, Tomato, Cucumber, Pumpkin.

SHOULD PRODUCE 90 TO 95 PER CENT:

Bean, Mustard, Turnip, Cabbage, Pea, Radish.

INDOOR PLANTING

Earlier crops can be secured by planting certain seed indoors and setting the young plants out in the open garden after the weather becomes warm. This may be done with tomatoes, cabbage, lettuce, cauliflower, peppers, and eggplant.

Any wooden box, shallow and wide, will make an indoor garden. Put 1 inch of gravel or cinders in the bottom for drainage, and fill to the top with good soil. Rows of plants may be two inches apart.

Plant 8 or 10 seed to the inch, keep the soil damp, and set the box in a window. When the plants are an inch high transplant them to other seed boxes, spacing plants 2 inches apart. This insures sturdy plants with good root systems.

Transplanting

Before transplanting the plants to the garden set the box outdoors, in mild weather, to harden the plants. Set out each plant with a ball of the box dirt sticking to the roots. Thorough watering several hours before transplanting causes the earth to stick as required.

Fig. 8—Transplanting tomato plant from pot to garden.

If the root system is broken in the removal trim away some of the larger leaves of the plants. In moist ground open a hole with trowel or dibble. Make the hole larger than is needed to hold the roots and a little deeper than the roots grew. Place roots in hole, and, with the hands, pack the soil firmly around the plant. In dry soil pour a pint of water into each hole before inserting plant. Rake some dry earth about the surface surrounding each plant to hold the moisture.

Transplanted plants cannot stand strong sunshine at first and cloudy days or late afternoon are preferable for transplanting. In bright weather place newspapers over them for a day or two, making tents of the papers, in the shape of an inverted V.

A homemade paper pot, a round, bottomless paper band or a berry box, filled with soil

should be used to produce plants for a hill of cucumbers, squash, melons or other "vining" plants which are started indoors, as these do not stand transplanting if the roots are disturbed. The pot or other holder may be set into the ground without disturbing the roots. Tomatoes, eggplants and beans may also be started in this way.

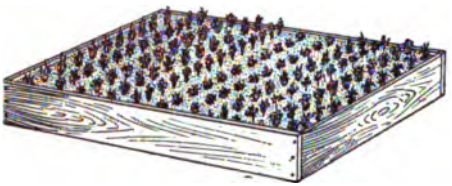


Fig. 9—Seed box for starting plants indoors.

WHEN TO PLANT

When heavy frosts are over, plant early peas, onion sets and seed, early potatoes, kale, lettuce and spinach. All of these will stand light freezing except potato plants, which should be covered with dirt when frost threatens.

When frosts are about over plant radishes, parsnips, carrots, beets, late peas and early sweet corn, and set out cabbage and cauliflower plants. (An old and useful rule is to "plant corn when the oak leaves are the size of a squirrel's ear").

When all frosts are over and apple trees are in bud, plant string beans and late sweet corn, and set out a few early tomato plants from the indoor boxes.

When apple trees have finished blossoming plant cucumbers, melons, squashes, lima beans and set out the rest of the indoor plants.

SEED BEDS

Plants for second crops may be raised in an outdoor seed bed occupying small space. These plants may be grown while the space allotted to them in the garden plan is still in use for earlier crops. The rows of seed are not spaced so closely as in boxes used inside the house. If the plants crowd each other too much some of them may be removed and transplanted to another part of the garden. The seed bed plan is useful for such crops as cauliflower, Brussels sprouts, late cabbage and the like.

FALL PLANTING

It is well to plant a fall garden of some crops, for in spite of the risk of injury by early frost the chances are in favor of satisfactory results. There can be no absolute rule as to the time of planting. The probable time of the first frost in each locality must be taken as a general guide. For planting in August, and possibly even in early September, the following vegetables may be grown:

When first frost may be expected between September 15 and September 25:

Lettuce, Spinach, Turnips, Parsley, Multiplier Onions and Turnips. (Kale and Radishes may be risked.)

When first frost may be expected between September 20 and October 5:

Kale, Lettuce, Parsley, Multiplier Onions, Radishes, Spinach and Turnips. Beets and Chard for greens.

When first frost may be expected between October 5 and October 15:

Beets for canning, Carrots, Kale, Multiplier Onions, Spinach, Chard, Endive, Lettuce, Radishes and Turnips.

When first frost may be expected between October 15 and October 25:

Any of the vegetables mentioned in the preceding lists. (String beans may be risked.)

LAYING OFF ROWS

Straight rows add to the garden's beauty and make cultivation easier. To make the rows straight stretch a stout string between stakes and follow it with the point of a hoe, with a wheel hoe, or with the end of the handle of the rake or hoe, to open up the row. The plan is suggested in Fig. 10.

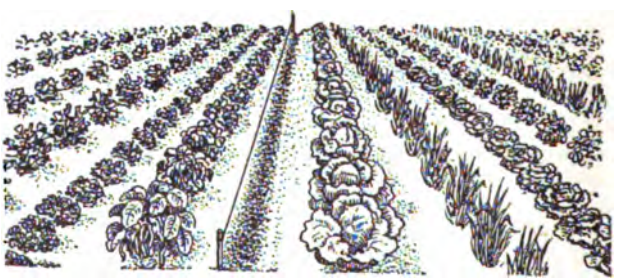


Fig. 10—Straight rows add to the beauty of the garden and are easier to cultivate. The simplest way to lay them off is to stretch a line between two stakes and mark row with a hoe, hoe handle or stick.

SUCCESSION OF CROPS

Nature generously provides for more than one crop on the same soil. Vegetables which reach maturity early in the season should be followed by later crops of the same vegetable or by rotation of other kinds. Onions to be used green may be grown in rows which are to be occupied by late tomato plants, as a few of the onions may be removed to plant the tomatoes. Radishes mature early and as they are harvested the space may be used for cabbage, lettuce, cauliflower, Brussels sprouts

and other plants. Many combinations of this kind may be made to good advantage.

Fig. 11—Beans planted at proper depth.

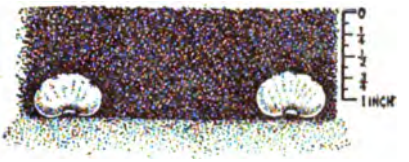


Fig. 12—Lima beans, planted properly, with eyes down.

FOR CONTINUOUS CROPS

With some of the important vegetables a series of plantings is desirable. Of string beans, lettuce, radishes, spinach, sweet corn, peas, beets and carrots there should be several successive plantings, two or three weeks apart, to provide a fresh and continuous supply all season.

DEPTH OF PLANTING

Do not plant too deeply. The old rule is to plant to a depth of 5 times the thickness of the seed. This, however, is not an absolute rule and is not safe in all cases. Consult planting table on page 23 for depth.

HOEING

When the green rows appear it is time to start hoeing or cultivating. Never hoe or cultivate deeply — an inch or two is deep enough— but stir the ground frequently, and always after rain or watering, as soon as it is dry enough. The hoeing must not be done after rain or watering when the ground is still so wet as to cause the muddy earth to pack like cement, as this causes the earth to cake and dry out altogether too rapidly, which is undesirable.

Frequent hoeing causes the formation of a dust layer which prevents the soil underneath from drying out. The garden should always be kept free from weeds, as these, if permitted to grow, consume plant food and moisture needed by the plants.

WATERING

A plentiful supply of moisture is essential. If there is not sufficient rainfall the moisture should be provided by watering the garden. In doing this it is better to soak the ground once a week than to sprinkle every day. Late afternoon is the best time to sprinkle.

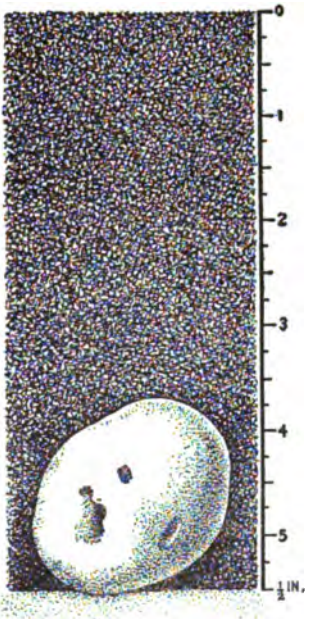


Fig. 13—A small potato planted whole. The depth of planting here shown is approximately 4½ inches to the center of the potato. This is the depth for late potatoes. Early potatoes are planted 2 inches nearer surface of ground.

To moisten the surface is not enough. There must be a thorough wetting. If pipe connections are available a garden hose is the best means of watering. One of the most satisfactory methods is to open small furrows between rows and allow water to run into these trenches, raking the earth back into place several hours later and making a mulch, after the water has thoroughly soaked in. The sprinkling pot will serve if hose is not available, but it is more laborious. Overhead sprinklers are very satisfactory. They consist of pipes mounted on supports extending the length of the area to be watered. Holes are drilled at intervals of 3 to 4 feet and small nozzles are inserted which yield a spray-like misty rain when the water is turned on. By turning the pipes and also changing the position of them it is possible to water an area of any size.

In home gardens proper drainage is often disregarded. Drainage improves the soil by allowing air to enter; by raising the temperature of the soil; by rendering the soil more porous and granular; by enabling the roots of plants to grow deeply into the soil and by allowing earlier cultivation in the spring.

Blind ditches, partly filled with stones or other material covered with soil, or open ditches, will be found satisfactory for the home garden. They should be along the lowest level of the garden, and have suitable outlet. Lacking an outlet, lay tile 12 inches below surface of garden, slanting toward a hole 10 feet deep and 5 feet across, in center of garden. Fill this, two thirds to top, with stones, covering stones with clay and covering the clay with loam.

DIRECTIONS FOR VEGETABLE GROWING

POTATOES

As one of the staple needs of the household Potatoes are entitled to special attention in Home Gardening and Community Gardening. In selecting for seed it is desirable to choose medium to large, smooth, shallow-eyed potatoes. The best seed will produce the best crop. Potatoes grow best in sandy loam or in a gravel loam. Heavy, sticky clay or loose sand is not desirable soil. Potatoes should not be grown in the same place in the garden in which they were grown the previous year. A rotation of three or four years is desirable.

Preparation of the soil should be done with care. The ground should be worked with plow, spade and hoe, to a depth of 8 or 10 inches, and should be thoroughly broken up or pulverized, then thoroughly worked with a steel-toothed rake. This preparation is of great importance and should not be slighted. Attention to details is necessary to success.

Treat Seed for Scab

One of the most common diseases affecting seed potatoes is scab. This attacks the skin of the potato, causing it to thicken, and giving it a scabby appearance. It is carried through the winter, in soil, in manure and on the potatoes themselves. To control this affection it is important that potatoes should be rotated with other crops as to location, and the same soil not used for potatoes except at intervals of three or four years. A simple remedy, easily applied, is to soak the seed potatoes before planting, in a solution of Formalin and water. This solution is made of 1 ounce of Formalin (40 per cent formaldehyde), mixed in 2 gallons of water. In this mixture soak the uncut potatoes for two hours, and spread them out to dry. The solution can be used on as many lots of potatoes as desired.

Fig. 14—Properly cut seed potatoes. Each piece has two good eyes and is about the size of a hen's egg.

Seed potatoes should be spread out in a room in which they will be exposed to strong light for two weeks before cutting, to start sprouts and detect poor seed. If large potatoes are used cut them into pieces weighing from 1 to 2 ounces, each piece having at least two eyes. If potatoes are scarce and expensive the pieces may be cut to a single eye. Do not cut the seed until it is to be planted.

Planting

For planting, prepare trenches or furrows from 3 to 5 inches deep and from 24 to 36 inches apart. Plant seed pieces 3 inches deep for early potatoes and 5 inches for late varieties. The seed pieces should be 14 to 18 inches apart in rows, the smaller the pieces the closer the planting. Fill the trench with dirt, firming it in order that the moisture may be brought in contact with the seed pieces to assist in the process of germination.

Usually potatoes should not be planted as late as the first week in July very far north of the Mason and Dixon line except in sections where it is known that they will mature before freezing weather arrives.

Cultivation

As soon as the potato plants come up begin cultivating them. The cultivation should begin before they come up if a crust forms. Cultivate or hoe every week during the season, to keep the surface in good condition. When the plants are young work the soil up around them to support the plants.

Potatoes are subject to diseases and insects which are scheduled on page 21. Take precautions to keep these from getting a start. Follow instructions as to spraying and keep at it during the season. It is better to spray before trouble appears than to take chances.

Fig. 15—On the left is shown tuber sprouted in warm, dark storage place. Such spouts sap vitality and decrease yield. On the right is green sprouted tuber. By this latter method the tuber retains its vitality and a good yield is insured.

Dig early potatoes when they are of the size desired. Late potatoes, for storing, should not be dug until the leaves and stems are dead, or until the skin is so firm that it may not easily be rubbed off.

SWEET POTATOES

Sweet potatoes are grown mostly in the Southern States or where there is warm, sandy soil, and are not especially recommended for the home garden. If space permits a few plants may be grown.

If you wish to grow your own plants start a hotbed about six weeks before apple-blossom time. Place 5 or 6 inches of sand over the manure in the hotbed and lay down small, healthy sweet potatoes, close together but not touching. Cover them with one or two inches of sand; water occasionally to keep slightly moist. Sprouts will soon begin to grow and immediately send out roots into the sand. When these sprouts are four or more inches long they may be pulled from the potatoes and are rooted and ready to be planted. They need not be pulled, however, until time to plant them in the garden, when all danger of frost is past. They should be set 14 inches apart in rows 36 to 60 inches apart. If only a few plants are wanted they should be purchased from a seedsman, as the trouble involved in growing them in small quantities is too great to make it worth while.

On land which is not thoroughly drained the plants should be set on ridges and these should be made broad, as narrow ridges will dry out too rapidly. The ridges should be maintained during the entire growing season.

Sweet potatoes should be dug when the soil is dry and the weather bright, before there is danger of hard frosts. A spading fork may be used in digging them. Guard against bruising or injuring them in digging and handling. Let the roots lie out to dry for two or three hours after digging.

Asparagus

Use strong plants two years old, which may be purchased from seedsmen. Set them 18 inches apart, in rows 3 feet apart. The rows should be 8 to 10 inches deep, with width of 6 to 8 inches at bottom. After spreading out roots cover crowns with 2 inches of soil. With the growth of the shoots gradually fill in with earth until level with surface. Careful cultivation is required during the season. A small bed heavily manured will furnish plants for 2 or 3 persons.

Beans

Beans form a staple crop which may be raised in almost every climate. They need a rich soil which holds moisture, but is well drained. Frequent shallow cultivation must be given and they must be kept growing without a check until harvested. Never cultivate while moisture is on vines.

Beans are susceptible to cold and for sure results they should not be planted until danger of frost is past. So little trouble is involved in bean planting, however, that it is a good plan to take a chance on making the first planting as soon as the ground is reasonably warm. If the first planting should be killed by frost there is a good chance that the second will come up and that it will mature early. In this way a crop will be assured early enough to make it worth while to take the small risk involved in the possible loss of the early planting.

Fig. 16—Lima bean vine on pole.

Dry shell beans are planted and treated the same as string beans are planted and treated. The beans are allowed to mature in the pods. They should be thoroughly dried, shelled and stored as directed for storage of seed on page 32.

String and lima beans are grown alike. There are two sorts of each —low bush vines and bean vines that climb poles. Pole beans are best for small gardens.

Plant beans and bush limas 1 inch deep, 4 to 6 inches apart in rows.

Make successive plantings every ten days until hot weather. In late summer make successive plantings of string beans until eight weeks before the usual time of first frost.

Plant pole beans and pole limas in hills 1 inch deep, 4 seeds to hill, hills 3 feet apart. Thin to 2 plants to the hill. Before planting fix firmly in each hill a pole 5 to 6 feet long. If desired have two rows of hills and slant the poles so that each set of 4 may be tied together at the top like an Indian teepee. This prevents the poles from falling, but reduces the yield of the vines.

Help the vines to start twining around the poles from right to left.

Note: Plant lima beans with the "eyes" of the seed downward.

Beets

Sow seed rather thickly in row, using 1 oz. to 50 feet, but thin the young plants by pulling until the survivors are 4 inches apart. The pulled plants make fine greens for cooking or canning.

Brussels Sprouts

Grown like cabbage.

Cabbage

Set plants from indoor seed boxes or pots 15 inches apart in rows, the rows being 30 inches apart. Between these rows

early lettuce, radishes, and other little crops may be planted. Early cabbage should be gathered as soon as it has formed solid heads. Late cabbage may be stored in trenches and covered with straw and earth.

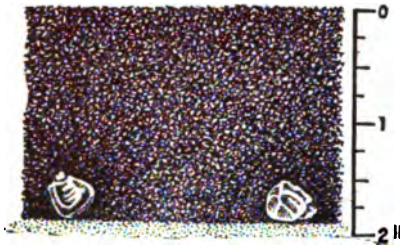


Fig. 17—Corn, planted properly, at depth of 2 inches.

Carrots

Sow seed ½ inch deep, using ¼ ounce to 25 feet of row. Thin to 2 or 3 inches apart when roots crowd each other.

Cauliflower

Grown the same as cabbages, except when the heads form, the loose outer leaves should be tied together over the heads to keep out the light and bleach them.

Celery

Sow seed in seed boxes and set plants in garden in June or July, 6 inches apart, trenches 6 inches deep and 3 feet apart. Make the trenches 6 to 8 inches wide at the bottom so that rains will not wash the earth over the young plants. As the plants grow, cultivate the ground into the trenches. When plants are large heap earth around stalks to whiten them.

Celeriac

This is a large rooted form of celery. It is grown like celery, except that the plants do not need bleaching. The large root is cooked for use. The plants should be protected in freezing weather by straw or mulch (half-rotted manure and straw), and dug when needed.

Corn, Sweet

Plant 5 or 6 seed 1 inch deep in hills 3 feet apart. When plants are 4 inches high pull out all but 2 or 3 plants in each hill. Make new plantings every 2 weeks until July or August so as to have corn for use during the entire season.

Cucumbers

Plant 8 to 10 seed 1 inch deep in hills 4 feet apart. Later thin to 2 plants per hill. Do not plant until soil is warm and frosts are over. Hoe or cultivate only until plants start to vine, then pull weeds by hand.

Eggplant

Little plants from seed boxes are set 2 feet apart in rows 3 feet apart.

Endive

In midsummer sow seed ½ inch deep and later thin plants to 8 inches apart. To blanch hearts raise leaves and tie together over heart.

Kale

Sow seed ½ inch deep in rows 18 to 24 inches apart. Thin the plants until they are from 6 to 8 inches apart in the rows.

Kohlrabi

Sow seed ½ inch deep and later thin plants to 4 or 6 inches.

Lettuce

Sow seed ½ inch deep in rows 1 foot apart and later thin out until plants are 5 to 6 inches apart. There should be successive plantings, but lettuce is not grown in extremely hot weather. Sow seed the last of August and in September to be transplanted to the cold frame in October.

Mint

Roots may be procured from a seedsman or neighbor. Plant one or two clumps of these roots in a corner of garden in the spring.

Muskmelon

Grown like cucumbers except hills must be 6 feet apart.

Muskmelons are difficult to raise and are not recommended to gardeners who are not experienced in their culture.

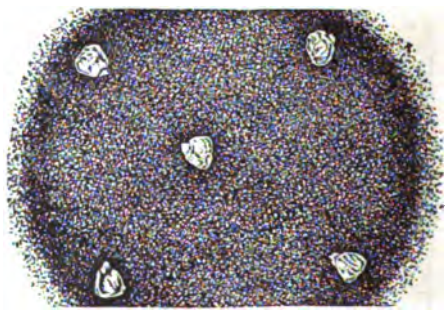


Fig. 18—Corn, planted properly in hill, at a depth of 2 inches and with corner kernels 3 inches apart.

Okra

Sow seeds when corn and beans are being planted. Sow 1 inch deep a few inches apart in rows 3 to 5 feet apart. Thin plants to 18 or 24 inches apart. Until plants are almost grown cultivate frequently and not very deeply.

Pick young pods every day to keep plant bearing.

Onions

Onions will grow from seed or from bulbs, called sets. It is better to use sets in home gardens. For early green onions plant sets

3 inches apart in rows 1 foot or more apart. To grow from seed, plant the seed rather thickly ¾ of an inch deep in rows and thin them later until plants are 2 to 3 inches apart. If sets for planting next spring are desired, do not thin out any plants, but let them crowd so they will remain small. Seed may be planted in seed box or seed bed and when transplanted placed 3 inches apart.

Parsley

Sow seed thinly ⅛ inch deep, later thinning plants when they crowd each other.

Parsnips

Sow seed thinly ¾ of an inch deep in rows 18 to 24 inches apart and later thin plants to 3 inches apart.

Peas

An important factor in the successful raising of garden peas is that the smooth-seeded type are not easily damaged by light frost. Because of this they may be planted early in the spring—practically as soon as weather conditions permit preparation of the ground. They may be grown in almost any ordinary soil. The best soil is sandy loam, well drained, and rich with rotted manure. To give continuous supply throughout the growing season make successive plantings from one to two weeks apart. For the earliest crops select the smooth-seeded varieties of quick maturity. These varieties require no supports. For later crops select the large, wrinkled varieties.

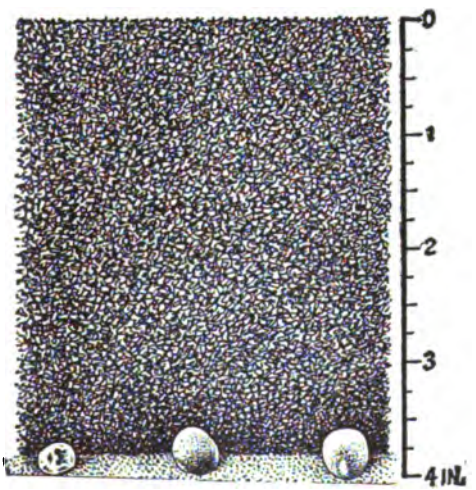


Fig. 19—Peas, planted properly, at depth of 4 inches.

As soon as plants break through the ground, cultivate. Continue to do this three or four times a week until the vines lop over.

Peas should be planted in trenches 4 inches deep, the seed being covered with 2 to 3 inches of soil. From 1 to 2 pints of seed will plant 100 feet of row. As the plants grow, gradually fill in the trench around them. Let the vines of the tall varieties grow up on brush or poultry wire. The rows of peas should be 3 to 4 feet apart, but if the space is small it is desirable to plant double rows 1 foot apart, placing the brush between these rows.

Peppers

Set young plants from seed box 18 inches apart in row. Pepper plants are tender and should not be set out until the ground is warm.

Potatoes

For special instructions on Irish and Sweet Potatoes see pages 12 and 13.

Pumpkin

Plant in hills 8 to 10 feet apart, using 8 to 10 seed to a hill. Plant seed 1 inch deep. Later thin to 2 or 3 plants to a hill.

Fig. 20—A tomato plant should be tied with a strip of cloth, at a height of ten inches, again at about 18 inches and again at about 26 inches. The plant here pictured is a good one from which to save seed.

Radishes

Planted and grown the same as carrots.

Rhubarb

Procure roots from a neighbor or dealer as seed planting is not advised. Set them 3 to 4 feet apart, in rows or next to fence. Use manure freely.

Salsify or Oyster Plant

Also called vegetable oyster. Grown like carrots. Plants must be thinned to 3 inches apart.

Spinach

Sow seed thickly 1 inch deep in rows 12 to 18 inches apart, for both early spring and fall crops.

Squash

Grown the same as cucumbers or muskmelon, except that the hills of Hubbard squash should be 7 to 9 feet apart.

Swiss Chard

Sow seed ½ inch deep. Thin out when necessary.

Tomatoes

Tomatoes form one of the favorite crops of the home garden, as they will grow in all types of soil. Sandy loam, with plenty of humus, is ideal for growing tomatoes.

If plants are grown in seed flats, hotbeds or cold frames, follow the directions for transplanting given on pages 9 and 10. Plants suitable for setting out should be 4–6 inches high, having a thick stem and dark green leaves. Begin cultivation as soon as the plants are set. Cultivate deeply and close to plants at first but later cultivation should be more shallow to prevent injury to roots. Cultivate frequently to keep the soil loose over the surface, so preventing evaporation. Always cultivate after a rain.

When preparing seed flats, hotbeds, or cold frames for tomato seed, use soil which has never grown tomatoes. This insures plants free from disease. It is not advisable to plant tomatoes on land which has been planted the previous year with white potatoes, melons or tomatoes. To plant on such soil increases the danger from disease and pests.

It is always advisable to train the plants to stakes or other supports. They may be trained on wires or on poultry wire fastened on posts set about fifteen feet apart in rows. Barrel hoops a foot apart fastened to stakes eighteen inches apart are some times used. To tie plant to support, loop the string around the support and tie it under a leaf stem. Remove all side branches at the axil of the leaves as soon as they appear. Do not remove flower clusters. When the plant has reached a height of 5 feet cut off the top.

When three or four clusters of fruit have formed and some of the fruit is as large as a silver dollar prune the leaves at the base one half. This hastens ripening.

Once a month apply a little commercial fertilizer or compost around each plant. Avoid the use of fresh or unrotted manure as this produces too much leaf growth, the fruit does not set and disease is encouraged.

Turnips

For early spring, plant ¼ ounce of seed to 50 feet of row, sowing them ½ inch deep, in rows 1 foot or more apart. For fall crop ¼ ounce of seed to 50 feet of row, ¼ inch deep, or make the rows 8 to 10 inches wide and scatter seeds thinly in broad rows.

Vegetable Marrow

Plant 6 or 8 seed to a hill, one inch deep, in hills 8 to 9 feet apart. Thin to 2 plants to hill. Give the same care as for pumpkins. The young and tender vegetable marrow may be baked whole like sweet potatoes or may be sliced and fried like eggplant, or boiled like summer squash.

Watermelon

Plant 1 inch deep, 8 or 10 seed to each hill, the hills 10 feet apart. Later thin to 2 plants to each hill.

Watermelons require much room and are not recommended for small gardens.

DISEASE AND INSECT PREVENTION

Every garden is subject to attack from insects and diseases. Your garden may not be attacked, but it is wise to take advance precautions. Spraying at occasional intervals from the time the plants have made their start until they are harvested is worth while. A hand sprayer should be used to distribute the necessary solutions on the plants. Such sprayers may be bought in various types. Some of them may be bought for a dollar or less and others range up to the neighborhood of $10 for the small, compressed air type. The simplest and cheapest type is the small atomizer sprayer with hand pump and with glass receptacle for holding mixture. (Figure 21.) Another type, costing a little more, is the bucket pump. (Figure 21.) If you have no spray pump a

Fig. 21—Some of the best types of sprayer. At the left is a hand sprayer, which is one of the most satisfactory for the small garden. The glass receptacle is better than metal. This sprayer can be bought for from 50 cents to $2.00. In the center is a bucket sprayer which costs about $5.00. At the right is a compressed air sprayer, which is highly efficient and costs from $5.00 to $10.00. One sprayer may be used by several families, or by community gardeners, reducing the cost to each user.

good substitute is the whisk broom, for spattering the spray on plants. After using, wash out pump and hose as some sprays will corrode metal and others will rot hose. The ordinary sprinkling pot may be used to apply mixtures, but this is wasteful.

Buy Spraying Materials Early

Early purchase of spraying materials is important. The supply will be limited and the demand large. Make a list of the materials you will need, with amounts, and place your order immediately. If you have equipment from last season place your order early for repair parts for pump, hose or nozzle, especially extra couplings and hose splicers for burst hose. If you delay until the spraying season arrives you are likely to fail to procure your supply. By joining with friends or neighbors and buying in quantities you can procure materials at lower prices than if buying alone.

For home mixing the poisons and chemicals required for sprays and other remedies and preventives can be bought at a drug or seed store. The mixtures ready prepared can be bought at a seed store.

Diseases

The ordinary blights are usually overcome by spraying with Bordeaux mixture, made as indicated in the next paragraph. There are some diseases, however, which cannot be overcome, and when trouble appears that does not yield to treatment the affected plants should be taken up and burned to prevent the spread of the infection to others.

Fig. 22—Potato blights and their effect. At the left are shown leaves afflicted with early blight, indicated by brown spots with concentric rings. At the right is shown late blight, with dark brown spots looking water-soaked. These pictures should help in detecting trouble.

Bordeaux Mixture

Copper Sulphate, Blue Stone or Blue Vitriol	3	ounces
Lump Lime or Hydrated Lime	3	ounces
Water	2½	gallons

To make Bordeaux mixture procure the ingredients at a drug or seed store. If lump lime is used it must be fresh. Instead of lump lime some authorities prefer fresh hydrated lime as being just as good and at the same time much simpler to use, needing only to be stirred into the water. Hydrated lime is lime to which enough water to dry-slake it has been added by the manufacturer. It is a powder and does not require slaking.

For making or holding Bordeaux mixture use containers of wood, glass or earthenware. In one container dissolve the copper sulphate in about one-half gallon of hot water and then dilute with enough cold water to make a total of 1¼ gallons; or wrap the copper sulphate in a small piece of cheesecloth, fill a quart jar with cold water and suspend the copper sulphate into the top of the water; in a couple of hours it will be dissolved. In another vessel slake the lime and dilute it with enough water to make 1¼ gallons. If hydrated lime is used simply mix it with water. Then pour these two solutions together, pouring the solution of copper sulphate slowly into the mixture of lime and water, stirring vigorously while this process is under way. The stirring insures proper mixing of the two.

Bordeaux mixture may be purchased in concentrated form from seedsmen, but the homemade mixture is better and cheaper. Do not make more at one time than will be needed within a short time. The mixture is better and more effective if made fresh for each spraying.

Sulphur

For the control of mildew, pulverized sulphur or flowers of sulphur, procured at a drug or seed store, is dusted full strength on the diseased plants. A tin can with small holes punched in the bottom makes a good sifter for this purpose, or a cheap flour sifter may be used. The holes in a flour sifter are the proper size for this purpose.

THE SUCKING INSECTS

For the destruction of insects which suck the sap of plants, such as the true bugs and the plant lice, or aphids, it is necessary to

use a mixture which kills by contact or substances which smother. Aphids, or plant lice, usually collect on the underside of leaves, causing them to crumple. This crumpling causes the edges of the leaves to turn down, protecting the aphids. Badly crumpled leaves should be picked and burned. In spraying be sure to apply the spray to the underside of the leaves. Otherwise the edges will serve as protection and prevent the spray from reaching the entire plant effectively.

Nicotine Sulphate Solution

To destroy the sucking insects use nicotine sulphate solution, made as follows:

Nicotine sulphate	½ ounce
Laundry or other soap	½ ounce
Water	2 gallons

Dissolve the soap and then add this and the nicotine sulphate to the water.

Fig. 23 — Bean anthracnose is indicated by dark sunken scab-like spots on pods. There are also spots on leaves.

Bordeaux and Nicotine Sulphate Combination

A combination spray for plant diseases and sucking insects is made thus:

Bordeaux mixture	2 gallons
Nicotine sulphate	½ ounce
Laundry or other soap	½ ounce

THE EATING INSECTS

The eating insects, or those which eat fruit or foliage, may usually be killed by using a spray of poisonous solution or by dusting poison powders on the plants attacked. Arsenate of lead, procured at a drug or seed store, is a favorite poison for this purpose, and may be used in spray or powder, but it must be handled with care as it is poisonous to human beings. It should never be applied to vegetables that are soon to be used, nor on cabbage or cauliflower after the heads have begun to form. As an added precaution wash carefully all vegetables before using, whether they have been sprayed or not.

Arsenate of Lead Solution

Arsenate of lead spraying solution is made by mixing 1 ounce of arsenate of lead powder (or 2 ounces of paste) with 6 quarts of water. If the arsenate of lead is used in paste form instead of powder mix 2 ounces with 6 quarts of water. The powder is more easily weighed and handled. Keep the mixture well stirred while spraying, to insure even distribution.

To apply arsenate of lead in dry form mix 1 ounce of the powder with 3 pounds of air-slaked lime, dry road dust or ashes finely sifted. Use a sifter for dusting this onto the plants, while the plants are wet with dew or rain.

Bordeaux-Arsenate of Lead Combination

Spraying with a combination of Bordeaux mixture and arsenate of lead every two weeks is a wise safeguard against both disease and eating insects. To make this combination spray use Bordeaux mixture instead of water when preparing the arsenate of lead. By using a combination spray half the labor of spraying is saved.

In spraying cabbage and cauliflower with Bordeaux and arsenate of lead before the heads form, a little soap mixed with the arsenate of lead will make it stick better. Shave the soap, add a small quantity of water and boil until the soap is dissolved or put it in cold water and stir occasionally until dissolved. Cool and stir into the arsenate of lead solution.

Paris green has long been used for protection, but arsenate of lead is now used much more extensively and is considered better.

Poisoned Bait

Poisoned bait is useful against cutworms and slugs. Small portions of the bait should be placed around plants subject to attack by them. The pests feed at night and hide under chips or other objects during the day. Bait should be placed beneath these. Poisoned bait may be made at home thus:

Wheat bran	1 pound
White arsenic, powdered	½ ounce
Cheap sirup	1 or 2 ounces

Water to make a thick mash of the mixture.

The bran and the white arsenic should be mixed. Dilute the sirup with a little water and pour this over the bran and white arsenic. Stir well. Add enough water to make a thick mash.

Liquid Poisoned Bait

Sodium Arsenate	1	ounce
Water	4	quarts
Molasses	1	pint

Dissolve the sodium arsenate in boiling water and add the molasses. Flavor by adding chopped pieces of vegetable of the kind which is to be sprayed. Apply with a whisk broom.

Removing Insects by Hand

The larger eating insects may be removed by hand or knocked off into a pan of water on the surface of which a small quantity of kerosene is floating. Insects collected by hand should be destroyed immediately.

For slugs and snails sprinkle any form of lime over plants and around where they occur.

Some Other Forms of Protection

One form of protection against cutworms is a collar 2 inches wide made of stiff paper, placed around the stem of the plant and with its lower edge inserted in the ground, to prevent the pests from reaching both stem and upper part of root.

Small frames covered with mosquito netting or cheesecloth set over young plants will protect them.

GUARD AGAINST DISEASES AND INSECTS

An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure in the matter of controlling diseases and insects. Clean garden soil aids in keeping out insects and disease. All plants purchased should be healthy and free from disease. The roots should not be swollen or knotted. Treat Irish potatoes for scab before planting. Do not plant cabbage having clubroot or sweet potatoes affected with black-rot.

Many insects carry disease and spores from one plant to another as well as attacking the crops directly.

Avoid wounding or bruising plants and vegetables when cultivating and harvesting them, to prevent certain insects from gaining access to them.

Have order, neatness and cleanliness in the garden. In the fall turn under promptly, all vegetation so that insects and disease spores may not find winter quarters. Keep down all weeds, as a great many insects feed naturally upon them. All diseased plants which remain at the end of the season should be burned, as should all rubbish which is of such character that it will not decay and is therefore not useful in making compost. This includes trash, sticks and the like. It may seem like a waste of vegetable matter to burn the dead tomato vines, bean vines and other plant tops which have been diseased, but this should be done because to save or compost these for fertilizer would simply be maturing and saving millions of disease spores which would be on hand ready to attack the crops next year. More than this, a clean garden appeals to the eye and to the pride of the owner as a winter landscape.

Corn stalks, cabbage leaves and stumps, beet tops if not canned, and other healthy plants should be saved for mulching or be added to the compost heap.

The remnants of vegetable matter, which are not infected with disease or insects, should be made into compost heaps for the coming year and covered with stable manure and dirt to hasten decay, as decayed vegetable matter enriches the soil. (Directions for making a compost heap are given on page 5). Plowing or deep spading in the fall is important, as it breaks up the winter homes of underground insect pests. Rotation of crops also lessens the danger of attacks from insects and diseases.

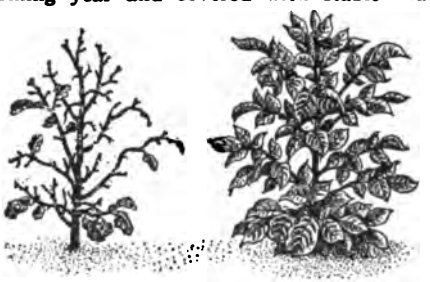


Fig. 24—Emphasizing the importance of spraying. On the left is a potato plant which was not sprayed. The ravages of the potato bug are plainly shown. On the right is a plant which was properly sprayed as a preventive measure.

TAKE NO CHANCES

Too much emphasis cannot be placed on the need for taking precautions against diseases and insects. Familiarize yourself with such diseases and insects as prevail in your neighborhood on the crops you plan to raise. Then provide yourself in advance with remedies and equipment. Watch carefully for first signs of trouble and apply remedies at once. Inspect your garden every two or three days.

PREVENTIVES AND REMEDIES

NOTE: It is important that immediate attention be given insects and diseases as soon as they appear. Delay in spraying or removal may prove fatal.

ASPARAGUS

Rust—(Rusty appearance of leaves and stems).—Procure rust resistant variety, such as Reading Giant or Palmetto.

Beetles—(Eat young stems and leaves).
Remedy: On young plants spray with arsenate of lead when pests appear, repeating 10 days later and again 10 days later if necessary. Add an ounce of laundry soap per gallon of spray to make it stick to the foliage. Do not use arsenate of lead on new stems used for food during cutting season. On old plants, spray after cutting season. Nicotine sulphate sprayed on the young insects will kill all it hits.

BEETS

Leaf spot—(Reddish and purple spots, turning ashy gray).—Usually not affecting garden beets.
Remedy: Spray with Bordeaux mixture when plants are 3 to 4 inches high, repeating 2 and 4 weeks later.

Web worm—(Eats the leaves).
Remedy: Spray with arsenate of lead when worms appear; repeat when necessary.

Spinach aphis—(Sucks sap from leaves).
Remedy: Spray with nicotine sulphate when pests appear and repeat when necessary. In order to strike the aphids the spray must be directed against the undersides of the leaves.

Beet-root aphis—(Sucks sap from roots).
Remedy: Pour a small amount of nicotine sulphate spray around roots and repeat if necessary.

BUSH BEANS

Anthracnose—(Dark, sunken spots, scab-like, on pods; spots on leaves).—Pick and burn diseased pods. In saving seed discard those from diseased plants, as seed carry the infection.

Leaf beetles—(Very small, dark or pale stripes; eat leaves).
Remedy: Spray with arsenate of lead when pests appear, repeat in 10 days and later if necessary. Bordeaux mixture repels but does not kill.

Aphids or plant lice—(Suck sap from plant and make leaves crumple).
Remedy: Spray with nicotine sulphate when pests appear, repeating when and as often as necessary. Crumpled leaves protect lice from spray, and should be picked and burned. Apply spray to underside of leaves, to strike aphids.

Bacterial blight—(Water soaked spots on leaves and pods).—No satisfactory remedy. Pull up and burn plants.

Downy Mildew—(thick white growth).—Burn all diseased pods. Spray with Bordeaux mixture, repeating every ten days if necessary.

CABBAGE AND CAULIFLOWER

Club root—(Root swells and decays).—Pull up and burn plants.
Preventive: In spring apply 1 lb. lime to each 8 sq. ft. of ground before setting out plants.

Black rot—(Leaves turn yellow, then brown and black and decay. Pull up and burn plants.)
Preventive: Soak seed 15 minutes in solution made of ¼ oz. formalin and 3 pints water; rinse in clean water; plant at once.

Yellows—(Leaves turn yellow, then brown, and drop). Pull up and burn plants.
Preventive: Treat seed as for black rot.

Cabbage worms—(Eat leaves).
Remedy: When worms appear spray with arsenate of lead, repeating if necessary before heads form. Add an ounce of laundry soap per gallon of spray to make it stick to the leaves. **Do not use arsenate of lead later than 3 weeks before using or marketing cabbage.**

Aphids or lice—(Suck sap from leaves).
Remedy: Spray with nicotine sulphate solution when pests appear; repeat if necessary.

Cabbage looper—(Eats leaves).
Remedy: Treat as for cabbage worms.

Cabbage Maggots—(Tunnel inside of roots).
Preventive: When plants are set out take a piece of tarred building paper 2 or 3 inches in diameter, cut a slit from one side to center, and 4 or 5 slits at center. Fit this around stem by slipping plant through the long slit, and press paper firmly against ground, to prevent young maggots from reaching root.

Black leg—(Diseased, sunken areas on stem, leaf stem and leaves, plant becoming purplish).—There is no remedy. Pull up and burn plants.
Preventive: Disinfect seed for 10 minutes with 1 tablet of corrosive sublimate mixed in 1 pint of water.

Cutworms—(Dark colored, eat young plants off at surface of earth).
Remedy: Spread poisoned bran mash over ground before setting out plants; spread around plants when set. Afterwards spread poisoned bait around plants as necessary to control worms. It is wise to wrap paper around stem from leaves to root just before setting out. Cutworms are especially abundant where sod has grown.

CELERY AND CELERIAC

Blight or leaf spot—(Gray or brown spots, drooping stems).
Remedy: Spray young seedlings, in seed box or seed bed, with Bordeaux mixture. Spray again as soon as set in garden, repeating 10 to 14 days later. Repeat again if necessary. Spraying in seed bed must not be neglected if disease appears.

Damping off—(Small seedlings dying in seed bed).
Preventive: Care should be taken to water and partially shade the young seedlings in hot and dry weather. As soon as seed are planted cover bed with thin layer of sand.

SWISS CHARD

Leaf spot—(Symptoms same as with beets).
Remedy: When disease appears, spray as directed for beets. (Usually no spraying will be found necessary). Wash sprayed leaves well before using.

SPINACH

Aphids—(Suck sap from leaves).
Remedy: Spray under side of leaves with nicotine sulphate, when aphids appear. Repeat a second and third time if necessary.

CORN

Smut—(Large, black, irregular swellings on ears or tops). The only remedy is to cut off and burn the smut swellings.

Cornear worms—(Bore through husk and eat the young kernels). Kill all worms which are found when husking corn for use.

Cutworms—(A dark worm which cuts plant off at surface of earth when plant is small).
Remedy: Use poisoned bait in the same manner prescribed for cabbage. Repeat if necessary. Being a night worker the cut-worm is usually found in the morning in the ground by cut off plants. Dig out and kill.

Seed Corn Maggot—(Tunnels in seed, sprouts and stems of plants).—Apply liquid poisoned bait with a whisk broom.

CUCUMBERS

Anthracnose—(Brown spots on leaves).
Remedy: Spray with Bordeaux mixture when plants begin to form vines. Repeat two or three times if necessary, at intervals of 2 weeks.

Downy mildew—(Yellow spots on leaves).
Remedy: Treat as for anthracnose.

Wilt—(Leaves droop and wilt quickly).—Pull up and burn plants. Striped beetles act as carriers of this disease and should be controlled carefully.

Stink bug or squash bug—(Sucks sap from leaves and injects an injurious substance).
Remedy: Pick them or shake them into pan of water and kerosene. Destroy egg masses. Place small pieces of boards near hills. The bugs will collect underneath these and may be easily crushed.

Striped beetle or 12-spotted beetle—(Both eat leaves).
Preventive: Cover young plants with protectors of cheesecloth or wire gauze.
Control: Mix arsenate of lead in the Bordeaux mixture which is used for diseases. Another remedy is to cover leaves with tobacco dust. Treatment should be given as soon as beetles appear, or when covers are removed. Repeat 5 days later and again 5 days later, with further repetitions when necessary.

Vine borer—(Worm which bores into vine at surface of earth).
Remedy: Carefully cut the vine lengthwise, remove borer and kill. As plants grow throw earth over vine at every other joint, in order that new roots may form and to keep the vine growing.

EGGPLANT

Blight or wilt—(Whole plant wilts).—No remedy. Pull up and burn plants.

Flea beetle—(Small jumping beetle which eats leaves).
Remedy: Spray with Bordeaux mixture and arsenate of lead combination.

Anthracnose—(Dark sunken spots in fruit; cracks in leaves).
Remedy: Spray with Bordeaux mixture when plants are set, repeating 10 days later and again 10 days later.

ONIONS

Thrips—(Very small sucking insects, which cause leaves to turn a silvery color or whitish, and later to curl and twist).
Remedy: Spray with nicotine sulphate solution when pests appear, repeating once or twice as necessary.

Cutworms—(Dark worms which attack onions as they do corn).
Remedy: Same as with corn.

Onion Maggot—(Eats bulb, inducing decay).—
Remedy: Apply liquid poisoned bait with a whisk broom.

PEAS

Powdery mildew—(Covers plant with powdery white growth).
Remedy: Use pulverized sulphur or flowers of sulphur, or Bordeaux mixture, by sprinkling on plants when mildew appears, just before bloom appears. Repeat if necessary two weeks later and again 2 weeks later.

Pea Aphis.
Remedy: Same as for bean aphis.

POTATOES

Early blight—(Brown spots, with concentric rings on leaves. Worst in moist weather.)
Remedy: Spray with Bordeaux mixture when plants are 6 inches high. Repeat two weeks later and again two weeks later.

Late blight—(Dark brown spots on leaves, appearing water soaked and not having concentric rings. The spots become yellow and the leaves die. Worst in hot, sultry weather, August and September. Lives over winter in seed potatoes.)
Remedy: Same as for early blight.

Colorado potato beetle—(The common potato bug, which eats leaves).
Remedy: Spray with arsenate of lead when beetles appear. Repeat when and as often as is necessary. Hand picking is effective, as is also knocking the bugs into a pan of water containing some kerosene.

Blister beetle—(Long black potato bug or old fashioned potato bug. Eats leaves.)
Remedy: Same as for Colorado potato beetle.

Flea beetle—(Small, jumping insect which eats leaves, usually appearing when plant is small).
Remedy: Spray as for Colorado potato beetle.

SWEET POTATOES

Beetles—(Eat foliage).
Control: Spray with arsenate of lead and lime.

Cutworms—(Worms which cut plants off at the surface of earth).
Control: Use poisoned bait in the same manner as prescribed for cabbage.

Black Rot—(Black, sunken and nearly circular spots appear on tubers. It begins as small spots on stems and spreads until the stems rot off.)
Control: Use only sound healthy tubers to produce healthy plants.

PUMPKIN

This plant is subject to the same diseases and insects as cucumber, and should be treated the same way.

RUTABAGA

This plant is subject to the same pests as cabbage and should be treated the same way.

AVOID WASTE—STORE, CAN OR DRY

The home gardener must remember that his responsibility does not end with the maturity and harvesting of his crops. Authorities are agreed that after several years of war 1919 will see the world's food shortage more marked than ever before. For this reason the matured crops must be considered as only a beginning. Garden products must be put by for winter use in order that the abundance of the growing season may be made to supply the needs of the months of non-production.

EVERY POUND OF THE SUMMER'S CROP THAT CAN BE SPARED FROM THE SUMMER DIET MUST BE STORED, CANNED OR DRIED IF AMERICA IS TO GIVE THE WORLD THE FULL WORTH OF HER HOME GARDEN PRODUCTION. NOTHING MUST GO TO WASTE.

Vast quantities of foodstuffs must be sent overseas to feed the people of starving Europe. In order that a sufficient volume of exportable food may be available for this purpose it is imperative that the home-grown foodstuffs be made to supply this country's household needs, as far as possible, for the coming winter.

For home storage complete directions are given in Part II of this book.

For home canning and home drying full details are given in a manual issued by the Commission. The book also contains directions for jelly making, the making of fruit butters, pickling, fermentation and salting.

For a copy of the book on canning, drying, etc., write to the National War Garden Commission, Washington, D. C.

RADISH

Cabbage maggot—(Small worm which tunnels into the radish).
Preventive: Sprinkle tobacco dust along row when seed is planted, or spread sand on which kerosene has been sprinkled along the row when plants are small. Burn all plants that may be infested.

TURNIP

Subject to the same diseases and insects as cabbage. and should be treated the same way.

RHUBARB

Flea beetle—(Eats small holes in the leaves).
Remedy: Same as for flea beetle of potato, applied when beetles first appear and repeated when necessary.

SQUASH

This plant is subject to the same diseases and insects as cucumbers and should be treated the same way.

TOMATOES

Leaf spot, or blight—(Leaves become spotted, turn yellow and drop; stems dry up and fruits drop).
Remedy: Spraying is not entirely effective but is helpful. Spray with Bordeaux mixture while plants are small in seed box or seed bed. Repeat soon after transplanting to garden and repeat again 3 weeks later and every 3 weeks while disease exists.

Fruit rot—(Decay begins at blossom end of fruit).
Preventive: In the absence of an effective remedy the only safeguard is to cultivate well and be careful to water as the plants need.

Anthracnose—(Sunken, discolored spots in fruit, followed by decay).
Remedy: Same as for leaf spot.

Wilt—(Causes plant to wilt and die).—Pull up and burn plants.

Tomato worms—(Large green naked caterpillar, which eats leaves).
Remedy: Pick by hand and destroy, or spray with lead arsenate solution. (These worms do not often appear in large numbers.)

Cutworms—(Dark worms which cut plants off at the surface of earth).
Remedy: Same as with cabbage.

Flea beetle—(Small jumping beetle which eats small holes in leaves).
Remedy: Same as with potatoes.

WATERMELON

Anthracnose—(Brown spots on leaves; small sunken spots on fruit).
Remedy: Spray with Bordeaux mixture when melons are half grown. Repeat 10 days later and again if necessary.

Insects—This plant is subject to the same insects as cucumber and should be treated the same way.

YOUR QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED

This Commission maintains a Department of Household Science which will welcome questions connected with Gardening, Canning, Drying and kindred subjects. Technically trained workers, of practical experience, will give prompt attention to all inquiries. Address Department of Household Science, National War Garden Commission, Washington, D. C.

PLANTING TABLE

Vegetable	Quantity required for 100 feet of row	Distance Apart In Inches		Depth of Planting Inches	Time of Planting	Mature (In days, except as noted)
		Rows	In Row			
Asparagus, seed	1 oz.	12 to 24	3 to 5	½ to 1	Early spring	3 to 4 yrs.
Asparagus, plants	60 to 80	36 to 48	15 to 20	3 to 10	Early spring	1 to 3 yrs.
Beans, snap	½ to 1 pt.	20 to 24	4 to 6	1	April to August	40 to 65
Beans, pole	½ pt.	36 to 48	Hills 24–36	1	May and June	50 to 80
Beans, Lima, bush	½ to 1 pt.	18 to 24	4 to 6	1	May and June	60 to 90
Beans, Lima, pole	½ pt.	36 to 48	Hills 24 to 36	1	April to June	60 to 80
Beets	2 oz.	12 to 18	5 or 6 to ft.	1 to 2	April to July	60 to 80
Brussels sprouts	¼ oz.	24 to 30	16 to 24	½	April to August	60 to 80
Cabbage, early	¼ oz.	24 to 30	12 to 18	½	March and April (Start in hotbed during February)	90 to 130
Cabbage, late	¼ oz.	24 to 36	16 to 24	½	May and June	90 to 130
Carrot	1 oz.	18 to 24	6 or 7 to ft.	½	April to June	75 to 110
Cauliflower	1 packet	24 to 30	14 to 18	½	April to June (Start in hotbed during February or March)	100 to 130
Celery	¼ oz.	18 to 36	4 to 8	½	May and June. (Start in hotbed during March or April)	120 to 150
Chard	½ oz.	18 to 24	4 to 6 to ft.	½	April to July	60 to 80
Corn, sweet	½ pt.	30 to 36	30 to 36	1 to 2	May to July	60 to 100
Cress, upland	½ oz.	12 to 18	4 to 5 to ft.	½ to 1	March to May	30 to 40
Cucumber	½ oz.	48 to 72	48 to 72	1	April to July	60 to 80
Eggplant	½ oz.	24 to 36	18 to 24	½ to 1	April and May. (Start in hotbed during March)	100 to 140
Endive	1 oz.	18	8 to 10	½	Midsummer	90 to 130
Horse-radish	70 roots	24 to 30	4 to 6	3 to 4	Early spring	1 to 2 yrs.
Kale	½ oz.	18 to 24	6 to 8	½	Early spring and August and September	90 to 120
Kohlrabi	¼ oz.	18 to 24	4 to 6	½	April to August	60 to 80
Lettuce	½ oz.	12 to 18	4 to 6	½	March to September	60 to 90
Muskmelon	½ oz.	72 to 96	Hills 72	1	April to June. (Start early plants in hotbed during March)	120 to 150
Okra, or gumbo	2 oz.	36 to 48	24 to 30	1 to 2	May and June	60 to 90
Onion, seed	1 oz.	12 to 18	5 or 10 to ft.	½ to 1	April and May	130 to 150
Onion, sets	1 qt.	12 to 18	4 or 5 to ft.	1 to 2	Autumn and March to May	90 to 120
Parsley	¼ oz.	12 to 18	3 to 6	½	Early spring and September	90 to 120
Parsnip	½ oz.	18 to 24	4 or 6 to ft.	½ to 1	April and May	125 to 160
Peas	1 to 2 pts.	36 to 48	15 to ft.	3 to 4	March to June	40 to 80
Pepper	½ oz.	18 to 24	15 to 18	½	May and June. (Start early plants in hotbed during March)	100 to 140
Potato, Irish	5 lbs.	24 to 36	14 to 18	3 to 5	March to June	80 to 140
Potato, sweet	75 slips	36 to 60	14	2 to 3	March to June	100 to 130
Pumpkin	½ oz.	96 to 144	96 to 144	1	May	100 to 140
Radish	1 oz.	12 to 18	8 or 12 to ft.	½	March to September	20 to 40
Rhubarb, plants	33	36 to 60	36 to 48	* NOTE	Early spring	1 to 3 yrs.
Rutabaga	¼ oz.	18 to 24	6 to 8	½ to 1	May and June	60 to 80
Salsify	½ oz.	18 to 24	2 to 4	½	Early spring	120 to 180
Spinach	1 oz.	12 to 18	7 or 8 to ft.	1 to 2	September or very early spring	30 to 60
Squash, bush	½ oz.	36 to 48	Hills 36 to 48	1	April to June	60 to 80
Squash, late	½ oz.	84 to 120	Hills 84 to 108	1	April to June	120 to 160
Tomato, seed	¼ oz.	36 to 48	30 to 36	½ to 1	May and June. (Start early plants in hotbed during February and March)	100 to 140
Tomato, plants	33 to 40	36 to 48	30 to 36			80 to 100
Turnip	½ oz.	18 to 24	6 or 7 to ft.	¼ to ½	April and August	60 to 80
Veg. marrow	½ oz.	96 to 144	Hills 96 to 108	1 to 2	April to June	110 to 140
Watermelon	½ oz.	96 to 120	96 to 120	1	May	100 to 120

* NOTE.—Set rhubarb plants so that growing tips are at surface of ground.

Absolute dates for planting can not be given, because of variations in seasons from year to year and varying climatic conditions in different sections. For general guidance see "When to Plant," on page 10.

PART II

HOME STORAGE MANUAL FOR VEGETABLES AND APPLES

No form of Food Conservation is more important than the home storage of vegetables for winter use. Canning and drying are essential to the nation's food supply, and should be practised to the fullest possible extent, but they do not take the place of storage. To keep vegetables in their natural state is the simplest form of preparation for winter needs. By taking proper precautions against decay and freezing an abundant supply of certain kinds of fresh vegetables may be kept at minimum expenditure of money and effort.

STORAGE HELPS SOLVE FOOD PROBLEM

The importance of making provision for winter food needs is even greater this year than it was in 1918. Every pound of foodstuffs that can be spared for export will be needed in Europe for feeding American troops and to prevent the starvation of the domestic and military populations of the Allied nations. Every pound of vegetables stored away for home uses will release exportable food. A nation with a food shortage is a nation in peril. For this reason it is of vital importance that no vegetables of high food value be allowed to go to waste. To save is to be patriotic.

The home gardening campaign conducted by the National War Garden Commission will this year result in the creation of a vast new planting area. The output of these gardens is greatly in excess of immediate needs. Unless proper steps are taken to safeguard the surplus the waste will be prodigious. This Commission will stimulate nation-wide activity in canning and drying. An important purpose of this booklet is to arouse similar interest in the storage of vegetables.

WHAT AND HOW TO STORE

There are many vegetables which can be stored to good advantage. Included in the list are Potatoes, Beets, Carrots, Parsnips, Onions, Sweet Potatoes, Celery, Salsify, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, Winter Squash, Turnips, Beans and Lima Beans. Good results in storage depend upon:

1—Ventilation.
2—Regulation of temperature.
3—Sufficient moisture.
4—Quality of vegetables stored.

For some vegetables satisfactory storage places are afforded by the pantry shelf or attic. For others the cellar is the right place. For others outdoor storage is preferable. This may take the form of pits or banks, or it may be done in hillside caves or cellars.

COMMUNITY STORAGE

Especially good results may be obtained if several neighboring families will form community clubs to provide storage facilities. In this way very complete provision may be made for handling winter supplies at slight trouble and expense to the individual household.

Community or co-operative storage may be effected in various ways. Several families may join together and construct outdoor cellars or they may join in the use of an available building conveniently located in which vegetables may be stored in large quantities.

CELLAR STORAGE

Beets	**Parsnips**
Cabbage	**Potatoes**
Carrots	**Salsify**
Celery	**Turnips**

In a house heated by a cellar furnace vegetables may be stored to good advantage in the cellar. Partition off a small room as far as possible from the heating plant. Two sides of this room should be outside walls. There should be at least one outside window, for temperature regulation and ventilation. The suggested arrangement in Figure 1 shows ventilation afforded by a stove-

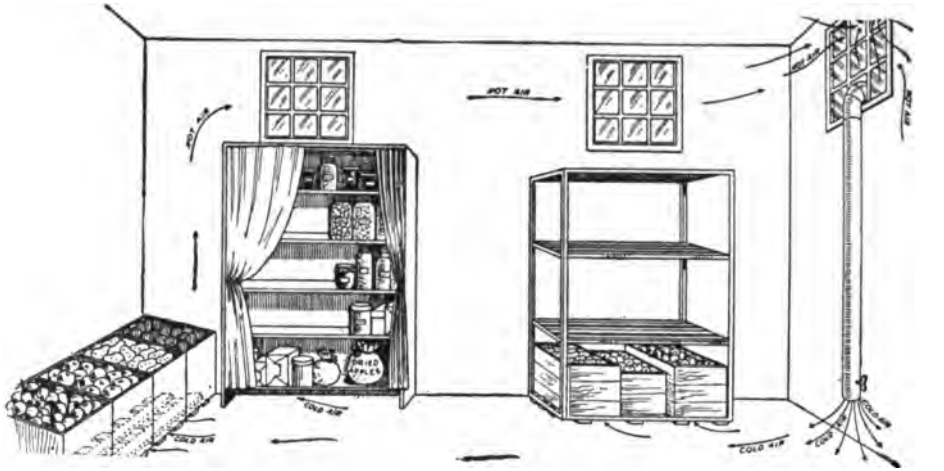


Fig. 1—This suggests an arrangement for storage in a cool cellar. An earth floor is best, as it gives off some moisture. If the floor is of concrete it should be covered with 2 or 3 inches of sand and this should be sprinkled with water occasionally. In the drawing a pane in the upper part of one window is shown to be missing. This is to allow the escape of heated air. In severely cold weather close these openings. The stove pipe fitted into the place for one of the lower panes admits cold air. Instead of a stove pipe a wooden flue, made of old boards or parts of boxes, may be used. Bins and boxes should be placed on slats to lift them from the floor and allow circulation. For this same purpose bins and boxes should be at least one or two inches from the wall. Air holes bored in sides and bottom of bins and boxes help circulation. Protect glass jars from light.

pipe inserted through one of the lower panes of the window, to admit cold air and indicates the removal of one of the upper panes of glass to allow the escape of warm air. This affords constant circulation.

An earth floor is desirable, but this is not always possible, as most city and many town and country houses have floors of concrete. In a cellar with a concrete floor the concrete should be covered with two or three inches of sand, which should be sprinkled with water from time to time.

In this room may be stored Beets, Carrots, Cabbage, Celery, Parsnips, Salsify, Turnips and Potatoes. (Special attention is given Potatoes on page 28.) Put them in bins or in boxes, baskets, slat crates or barrels. It is best to use movable containers and small ones. Bins should not hold more than two or three bushels apiece, as the larger bulk brings danger of heating and consequent decay. There should be full protection from mice.

The vegetables should be harvested when the ground is dry, if possible, and should lie outdoors a few hours until any surface moisture on them has evaporated. Remove the tops, leaving an inch or so, from beets, turnips, carrots and salsify. To leave an inch or so of top prevents bleeding and drying out. Sort vegetables according to size and condition. Imperfect or bruised ones should be selected for immediate use and only sound vegetables should be stored.

In cellar storage beets, turnips and carrots may be buried in slightly damp sand to good purpose.

Cabbages may be stored in the cellar in boxes or barrels of earth or sand, or they may be placed in a cool cellar on the floor with roots up.

Celery, to be stored in a cellar, should be allowed to stay in the garden until there is danger of severe freezing. In order to prolong the period of keeping it outdoors the plants should be protected from frost by banking them with earth to within two or three inches of the tops. On cold nights protect the tops with paper, burlap, mats, straw or other covering. The importance of not harvesting at the first appearance of frost arises from the fact that this period is likely to be followed by warm weather, which will cause decay by creating too high a temperature in the place of storage. With the arrival of steady cool weather, which will freeze the plants, dig them, leaving some soil adhering to the roots. For cellar storage place the plants upright, covering the roots with three or four inches of sand or light soil. (Fig. 2.) Earth may be banked around the stalks but this is not necessary. Water the soil occasionally, being sure to keep the leaves and stalks dry to prevent decay.

Celery may also be stored in cellar boxes, following these same directions.

The cellar storage room may also be used for the storage of fresh fruits and for canned goods, preserves and dried vegetables and fruits. Fig. 1 shows a suggested arrangement for shelves for canned and dried articles. If the shelves are not protected from light by doors all canned goods in glass should be wrapped in brown paper, to prevent bleaching

of the contents as a result of exposure to the light.

Wide fluctuations of temperature should be avoided. The ideal temperature is 40 degrees F. The root cellar should be kept at not less than 32 degrees and not over 50 degrees.

PIT STORAGE

Beets	**Potatoes**
Carrots	**Turnips**
Cabbage	**Salsify**
Celery	**Parsnips**

For outdoor storage one of the best forms is a mound shaped pit. To prepare for this remove two or three inches of earth and line this shallow excavation with hay, straw, leaves or similar material. Place the vegetables on this in a conical pile. Cover the vegetables with several inches of the material used in making the lining. Cover this with 3 or 4 inches of earth. As severe weather approaches the outer covering should be increased. An additional layer of hay or similar material may be placed over the layer of earth and on top of this another layer of earth. In extremely cold climates the total thickness of earth layers should be as much as 12 inches. Over the outer layer of earth pile manure or corn stalks for added protection. To give ventilation have the inner layer of straw project through the outer covering and extend to the top of the cone. For protection from rain and snow this opening should be covered. A board laid over the top and weighted with a stone is

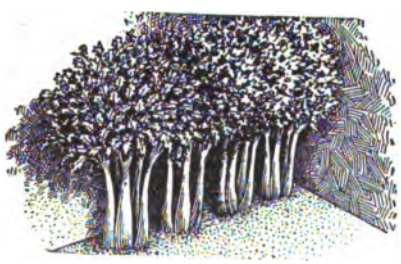


Fig. 2—For storage in cellar without heater celery should be set in two or three inches of sand or light soil and the plants then banked with soil. The soil must not be allowed to become dry.

suitable for this purpose. An idea of the construction is given in Fig. 5.

It is well to make several small pits rather than one large one, for the reason that when a pit has been once opened the entire contents should be removed. This form of storage is used for potatoes, beets, carrot, turnips, parsnips, cabbage and salsify. It is well to store several varieties of vegetables in one pit so that the opening of a single pit will afford a supply of all of them. In following this plan it is desirable to separate the various crops by the use of straw or leaves.

When a pit has been opened it is impossible to give adequate protection to vegetables therein. For this reason those not required for immediate use should be removed, placed in the basement storage room, or other cool

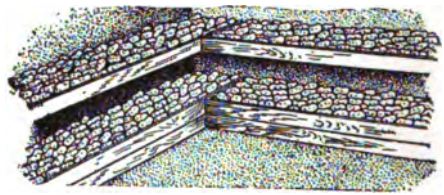


Fig. 3—Shallow bins or shelves with board sides, for storing root crops in cool cellar. The air of the room must not be allowed to become too dry, as this will cause the vegetables to shrivel. Potatoes must be protected from light.

place, and used as needed. This emphasizes the importance of making small pits, each one holding not more than two to six weeks' supply.

Instead of making a dirt pit, barrels may be used in which to place vegetables. (Fig. 8.) Make a slight depression the length of the barrel and put in a thick layer of straw or leaves. On this place the barrel. Cover the barrel with successive layers of straw or leaves, and dirt. As the weather grows colder put on more dirt until there is from 14 to 18 inches of covering. For ease in opening make a door at one end, against which pile earth and manure of sufficient thickness to prevent freezing.

Cabbage

For late varieties of cabbage the pit should be long and narrow. The cabbages are placed in rows with heads down and covered with dirt. No other covering is needed. The removal of a portion of this supply does not disturb the remainder. (Fig. 6.)

Cabbages may also be stored by placing the whole plants in a trench, roots down and plants close together. The roots should be covered with dirt. A frame should be built around the trench by driving stakes at the corners and placing boards against these to form the enclosure. The construction of such a trench is shown in Fig. 7. The boards are banked with earth and across the top of the trench boards or poles are placed, supported by the frame. These should be covered with straw, hay or corn fodder, for protection of the contents of the trench. Two feet of the straw or similar material will be required in cold climates.

Mature heads of cabbage of long-keeping sorts, such as Danish Ball Head, may be cut

from the plant and stored one layer deep on shelves in cool, frost-proof cellars.

Celery

In storing celery in a pit or trench, the plants are set side by side as close as they may be packed and wide boards set up along the outside edges of the pit. Dirt is banked up against these boards and the top covered with corn fodder or similar covering. If celery is kept in the row where grown the earth should be banked around the plants with the approach of cold weather. For freezing weather bring the dirt to the tops of the plants and cover the ridge with coarse manure, straw or fodder, using stakes or boards to hold the covering in place. Only late maturing and late planted celery can be safely stored. (Fig. 9.)

A hotbed, instructions for the making of which are given on page 7 (Fig. 2), in Part I of this booklet, makes an excellent place for outdoor storage for celery. The surplus earth and manure should be removed and a board covering should be substituted for the sash and glass. Store the celery in the same manner as in pit storage. For protection from cold use any covering that will prevent freezing.

Celery should not be stored with turnips or cabbage. It will absorb odors from these vegetables and its flavor will be impaired.

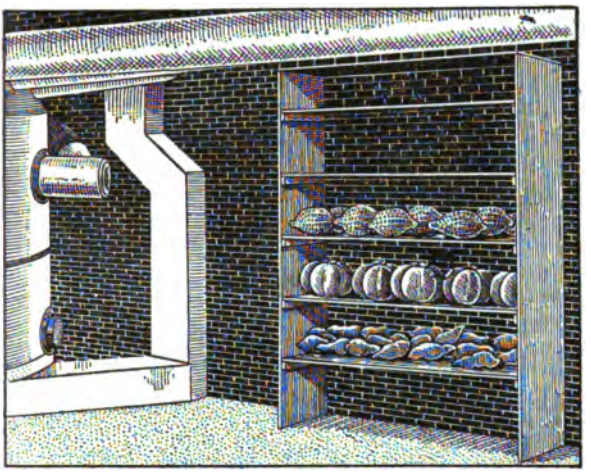


Fig. 4—For squashes, sweet potatoes and pumpkins shelves near furnace afford good storage.

OUTDOOR CELLAR

Beets **Potatoes**
Carrots **Turnips**
Parsnips **Salsify**
Cabbage

An outdoor cellar makes a good storage place. In cold climates this should be partially underground. A side-hill location is desirable for ease in handling the vegetables. To make such a cellar dig an excavation and in this erect a frame by setting posts in rows near the dirt walls. Saw these posts off at uniform height and place plates on their tops. On these plates place rafters. Board up completely with the exception of a place for the door. The whole should be covered with dirt and sod, and in cold climates added protection should be given by a layer of straw, fodder or similar material. Ventilate with a flue. A dirt floor is best, as some moisture is desirable. This form of storage is especially good for the joint use of several families.

On a more pretentious scale cellars of this nature may be made of brick, stone or concrete. Such cellars afford practically perfect storage room for potatoes, carrots, cabbages, parsnips, beets, turnips and salsify.

VARIOUS METHODS

Permanent cold frames, with deep pits, may also be used to advantage in storing vegetables if the drainage is made thorough. After the frames are filled the sash should be covered with boards and the outside banked with soil or manure. As the weather becomes severe a covering of straw or mats is necessary. This covering should be heavy enough to prevent freezing.

Cauliflower and Brussels Sprouts which have not matured may be taken up and planted in shallow boxes of soil in a light place in the cellar. If kept well watered they will mature for winter use.

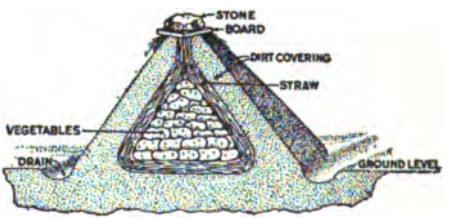


Fig. 5—Irish potatoes in an outdoor mound. This mound must be in a well-drained location. After removing 2 or 3 inches of earth, pile the potatoes on a 2 or 3-inch layer of dry straw, leaves or hay. Cover the vegetables with 2 or 3 inches of straw, leaves or hay, and cover this with 3 or 4 inches of earth. Increase the thickness of the earth layer as severe weather approaches, making it as much as 12 inches in extremely cold climates. Manure or corn stalks should be piled over the mound. The straw, coming to the top, will afford ventilation. The opening should be covered for protection from rain.

Dry beans may be stored in cloth bags in a pantry or in any cool, dry and well ventilated room. The bags should be hung away from the floor to prevent damage by rats and mice.

Onions require a cool, dry place. They should be cured by being exposed to the air for a few days in the shade. The tops should be removed before storing. Keep them in baskets, trays or other holders which let the air circulate. Onions are not damaged by temperatures slightly below freezing, and for storing them the attic is better than the cellar. If stored in the cellar they should be suspended from the ceiling.

Squashes are susceptible to cold and moisture, and for that reason should be stored in a dry place where the temperature will be between 50 and 60 degrees F. Squashes may be kept by placing them in a single layer on a dry floor and covering with rugs or carpets, but care must be taken that the stems are not broken off and that they do not become bruised before storing. Whenever it is found that any of the squashes or pumpkins are showing signs of decay, the sound portions should be canned.

Tomatoes may be saved by pulling up the entire plant before freezing weather. The vines should be suspended by the roots in a cool cellar. The tomatoes will gradually ripen. If these tomatoes, when cooked, are found to be acid, the acidity can be overcome by using baking soda.

Parsley may be saved by transplanting into flower pots late in the fall. These should be kept in windows where they will receive sunshine.

Parsnips and salsify are not injured by remaining in the ground all winter. Enough for immediate needs may be dug in the fall and the others harvested as required.

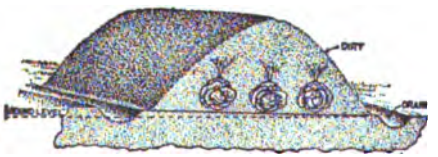


Fig. 6—Cabbage stored, roots up, in a bank of earth. The place must be well drained. The cabbages are covered with earth, but this need not be as thick as for some vegetables, as slight freezing does no harm.

POTATOES

As one of the staple vegetables, potatoes are entitled to special consideration for winter storage. If you have raised a surplus crop in your own garden save as many as possible for your winter's supply. If you have none of your own raising it is well to buy them early in the fall, at the time of greatest supply and lowest prices, and store them for the winter, making yourself independent of the market during the time of highest prices.

Potatoes may be stored in cellars, pits and outdoor cellars, as already described. Before they are stored they should be allowed to dry. This is done by digging

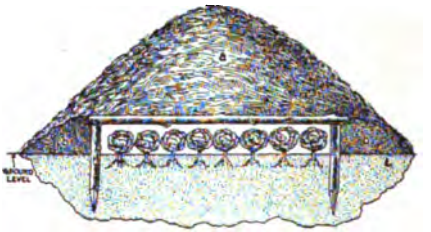


Fig. 7—This shows cabbage, pulled with roots, stored in a shallow trench, with roots down. The roots are covered with earth. The stakes, projecting 2 feet above the surface of the earth, serve as supports for boards or poles which make an enclosure. This frame should be banked with dirt (b). Across the top place poles or plank and cover with straw, hay or corn fodder (a). Make the trench as long as necessary and any width up to 8 feet.

them on bright days, if possible, and allowing them to lie alongside the rows for a few hours. Before storing sort them carefully as to size and soundness. The smaller potatoes and those which show signs of threatened decay should not be stored, but should be used early.

The success of potato storage depends on the exclusion of light, proper ventilation, the proper amount of moisture, the size of the pile or container and the type of the tubers stored.

In storing potatoes it should be remembered that the purpose is to protect them from great changes of temperature and from light. Even a small amount of light changes the food value of potatoes. There should be enough moisture to keep the potatoes from wilting, but not enough to cause moisture to gather on the surface.

If potatoes are stored in a place where there is moisture in the air, provision should be made to permit free circulation of air through the containers. Barrels, boxes and bins may be ventilated by boring holes in sides and bottoms. Barrels, boxes and crates should be set on slats to hold them off the floor and allow the air to circulate underneath. If the storage place is light a blanket, several thicknesses of paper, or old sacks should be placed on top of the containers.

If the air of the storage place is dry it should not be allowed to circulate freely through the containers, as dry air will cause withering of the potatoes. In such storage places the potatoes should be put

in containers made airtight by lining bottom and sides with several thicknesses of newspaper and covering the top snugly in the same manner.

The temperature of a cellar storage room for potatoes should be carefully controlled

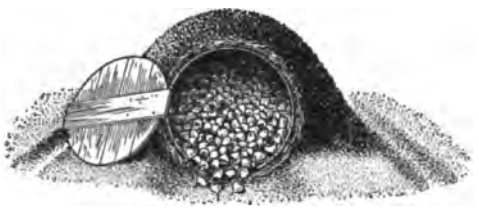


Fig. 8—A barrel can be made into a good storage pit for cabbage, turnips, potatoes etc. Barrel is placed on its side and covered with straw and dirt.

to prevent wide fluctuations. A constant temperature around 40 degrees F. is desirable. It should not be allowed to go below 32 degrees or above 50 degrees.

Potatoes should not be washed before storage. If they begin sprouting in the spring all the shoots should be rubbed off. The bins should be examined occasionally and any rotting potatoes removed to prevent the spread of infection.

Bins

Do not have one large bin for potatoes, as those in the center will be subjected to too high temperature, which will cause all of them to go through a sweating process. Too large a bin makes good ventilation impossible. Open bins, not more than a foot deep, arranged as a shelf, as shown in Fig. 3, are excellent for cellar storage. Another good arrangement of shelf storage for certain crops is shown in Fig. 4.

Pits

A small pit provided with ventilation, as shown in Fig. 5, is the most satisfactory. It is better to have several small pits than one large one, as the entire contents must be removed when a pit is opened. Place not more than two to six weeks' supply in a single pit.

SWEET POTATOES

In storing sweet potatoes the important points to be kept in mind are that the potatoes must be well matured before they are dug; they must be handled with extreme care; they must be allowed to dry or cure thoroughly before storage, and they must be kept at an even temperature. A test for maturity is to cut or break a sweet potato and expose it to the air for a few minutes. If the surface of the cut or break dries the potato may be considered mature, but if moisture remains on the surface it is not properly ripe. In sections where frosts come early digging should take place about the time the first frost is expected, without regard to maturity. Care in handling is necessary to prevent bruising and subsequent decay. Curing is done by keeping them at an even temperature of 80 to 85 degrees F. for a week or ten days after harvesting, to dry off the moisture. The room in which this is done must be ventilated in order that the moisture-laden air may escape.

For storing sweet potatoes on a large scale a specially constructed house is desirable. For home storage the roots may be kept near the furnace in the cellar or near the furnace chimney in a vacant upstairs room or in the attic. The room should be kept fairly warm. After curing the temperature should be maintained around 55 degrees F.

Care should be taken not to store sweet potatoes which are infested with the sweet potato weevil or root-weevil, one of the most serious pests of the Gulf region. This pest practically confines itself to destruction of the tubers after harvesting. When the tubers are found infested they should be fumigated with carbon disulphid, to be procured at a drug store. Place the tubers in a box or other container which can be tightly closed. The carbon disulphid is a liquid which gives off fumes heavier than air, and one ounce per bushel should be placed in an open dish on top of the roots and the container closed. Do not allow open lights or fire in the presence of this gas as it is highly explosive. All badly affected roots should be burned.

Fig. 9—This shows celery set into an outdoor pit or trench for storage. Boards should be placed along the edges of the pit or trench and dirt banked against these boards. The tops of the celery should be covered with corn fodder, straw or similar covering. The celery may be removed easily at any time.

APPLES

Apple storage is simple and is desirable not only for those who grow their own apples but also for those who depend on the market for their supply. The one essential is that the fruit be kept in a cool,

dry place, and so stored as to be in no danger of absorbing odors from vegetables stored nearby.

Families raising no apples, but having a good storage place, meeting the requirements as to temperature, will find it advantageous to buy a winter's supply in the fall, when prices are low. The cost of purchases thus made will be considerably less than if apples are bought as needed during the winter.

To store, sort apples carefully, removing and using at once all fruit which is bruised or shows signs of decay. The best results are secured by wrapping each apple in half a sheet of newspaper and storing in barrels, boxes, crates or bins. The wrapping prevents the apples from touching each other and thus prevents the spread of decay which may start. It also protects the apples from odors if vegetables are stored nearby. Apples absorb odors freely from potatoes, onions, turnips and other vegetables and should never be stored, unwrapped, in the same room with vegetables of any kind. In addition to wrapping the individual apples it is desirable to line the barrel or other container with a half inch thickness of newspapers, on the bottom and sides, and then cover the top with newspapers and either nail a cover on or tie the papers securely with strings. This will keep odors out. The lining and covering give full protection and make it possible to store apples in the general cellar storage room.

Remember that the cellar or other place in which they are stored must be cool. A temperature of 32 degrees F. is ideal, and the temperature should not be allowed to go above 40 degrees if it can be held this low.

Apples may be stored unwrapped in barrels, boxes, crates or bins if proper attention is paid to sorting, to providing a cool place for storage and to occasional sorting during the winter, for the removal of possible decayed fruit. If any of the fruit in any container is found to have begun to decay all the apples in all the containers should be sorted at once and decaying fruit removed. Apples stored unwrapped must not be kept in the room with vegetables.

SAVE NEXT YEAR'S SEED FROM THIS YEAR'S GARDEN

Owners of gardens will find that the saving of seed from this year's gardens will be of great help for next year's planting. While it is more satisfactory, ordinarily, to purchase seed from reliable dealers the increased planting of home gardens, the poor crop of seed, the decrease of foreign importation, the exporting of certain seed to Europe and the use of certain kinds for food have caused a shortage and, as an emergency measure, each gardener should save as much seed as possible.

Fig. 10—In selecting corn to be saved for seed, choose the most perfect ears.

Saving of seed is easily done, though it requires care and attention. In saving seed select them from plants of a single variety grown by itself if possible, rather than from plants where more than one variety have been planted. Where there are two or more varieties of the same vegetable growing side by side, cross fertilization takes place and standard seed cannot be obtained. It is well to learn all the features which make up the most desirable type of variety of vegetable from which seed is to be saved. Seed saved where it is grown has two advantages. For one thing more careful selection can be given than is possible for all seed placed on the market. Another advantage is that plants from this seed will succeed best under local conditions.

Select seed plants which are free from disease, which show a vigorous growth, a good yield and quality, and mature early. Mark selected plants with string. Plants selected for seed should be given especially careful cultivation and every effort should be made to promote their full development. When seed is ripe harvest with care.

Seed properly stored, with the exception of parsnip and onion, should retain vitality from 2 to 5 years. Thus enough seed may be saved from a good crop to tide over the poor years.

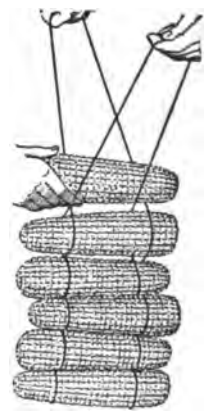


Fig. 11—A good way of hanging seed corn to dry.

SEED MATURING IN ONE YEAR

Some of the seed desirable for saving because they mature in one year are:

BEANS—Select the best plants and let the pods mature. Pull up plants preferably in

the early morning, to prevent shattering. Place plants in a dry, well aired place until seed are hard. Shell and spread in a layer until dry.

SWEET CORN—Select the ears just at maturity and while on plants, as plant must be considered as well as the ear. The plant should be free from disease and preferably have two or more good ears to the stalk. The distance between joints should be short and the ears set on short, strong shanks. Ears should be nearly cylindrical and should taper but slightly from butts to tips. They should be well filled out, with husks tightly folded over ears. Pick ears from plants maturing at nearly the same time, uniform in size, strong and well rooted. Medium sized ears are best. When fully mature strip down husks and string up 10–15 ears in a dry shady place so as to dry out ears quickly.

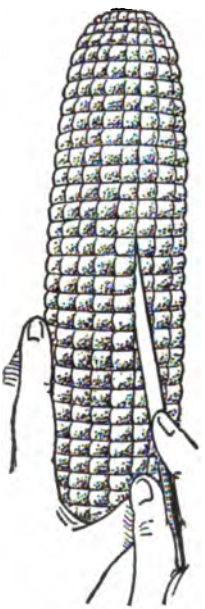


Fig. 12 — To remove kernels when preparing to plant or to test seed, insert knife between rows and pry sideways.

CUCUMBERS AND SUMMER SQUASH—Select desirable fruits when in the usable stage. Allow them to remain on vines until ripe, as indicated by change of color or hardening of surface. Remove the seed from the ripe fruit and wash free of pulp. Spread in a thin layer in the sunshine to dry, stirring frequently. A quart or less should dry satisfactorily in a day.

EGGPLANT—When fruit is opened for food, select the best formed seed, wash and dry.

LETTUCE—Plants for seed should be started early enough so that seed setting and ripening does not occur during the hot weather. With heading varieties it may be necessary to cut across the tops of the heads to allow the seed stalks to push through. When seed heads turn white and open, cut or pull the plants, put heads in paper bags and hang in a dry place until seed are ripened and drop out of heads, or lay the plants on a table in a dry airy place.

POTATOES—Select productive seed hills, as nearly free from disease as possible. Potatoes should be true as to variety, which means that a late variety should not be substituted for early variety if the crop is to be harvested early. Early varieties cannot be substituted for late varieties as they are not as productive. Seed potatoes should be kept dormant in a dark, cool place until planting time. The production of long sprouts, or wilting, will reduce the vigor. Rub off the long sprouts before the potatoes are planted.

Fig. 13 — Hubbard squash. A good type winter squash for seed.

RADISHES—Select the finest roots and cut off all but a few central leaves. Put the roots in a moist, airy place for a short time and then plant them with the crown an inch below the surface. When seed ripen, cut plants and lay on paper exposed in the sun. When the outside covering is dry, then rub out seed, dry and store.

TOMATOES—Gather fruit from selected plants when a little over ripe, but not decayed. The seed may be freed by one of two methods. One of these is to crush the fruit, and force through a sieve, and then put the seed in a coarse cloth and press out pulp under water. Another method is to crush fruit, put in a container and allow to ferment for two or three days, stirring once in a while. The seed settle and the pulp which rises may be poured off. Wash the seed in clear water an dry.

Fig. 14—Seeding plants of onion in blossom. They should be staked.

Winter Squash, Pumpkin, Muskmelon, Watermelon

When fruit is opened for food, select the best formed seed, wash and dry.

SEED MATURING IN TWO YEARS

Such vegetables as beets, carrots, parsnip, salsify, cabbage, etc., which require one season in which to grow will produce seed in the second year. Seeds of beets, carrots, cauliflower, turnips and late radishes are not often grown satisfactorily in the home garden.

They must be carefully stored during the winter. Root crops of late planting are most satisfactory for seed. Select those of the best shape, color and size. Cut off all but an inch or two of the leaf stems and store in a frost proof pit or cellar. If a cellar is used protect the roots from withering by putting them in sand, fine soil or sifted coal ashes. They should be kept very slightly moist. Do not store them in a heated cellar.

CABBAGE—In the fall select the best heads, pull up entire plants and store them in a trench. Next spring set out two or more plants as one plant alone rarely produces seed. It may be necessary to cut the head across the top to allow the seed stalk to develop. When the seed pods turn yellow cut off the stalk and lay it on paper in a cool shady place to dry; early morning is the best time to gather. Rub out the seed when the pod is dry. Do not grow kale, collards, cabbage or kohlrabi—any two of them—in the same garden, as they will cross-fertilize.

ONIONS—Seed bearing bulbs should be well rooted. In the fall plant them 3 inches deep. As cold weather approaches cover with earth to protect them from freezing. In the spring remove the ridges. The seed stalks should be supported with stakes. When most of the seed is ripe cut out the seed stalks, dry in the sunshine and rub out the seed.

PARSNIPS—These may be left in the ground all winter. In the spring plant selected roots 3 to 5 feet apart in row. When seed are ripe cut seed stalk and dry.

STORAGE OF SEED

Put heavy seed, such as beans and peas, in cloth bags; smaller seed in paper bags or envelopes. Label each bag carefully, inside and out, as to contents. To protect seed from mice put the bags in perforated tin boxes. A bread box makes an ideal storage place for seed. An upstairs room or attic room, provided it is not warm, is a very good place in which to store seed. The room must be dry and well ventilated to prevent molding.

Stored seed should be occasionally examined for insects. If insects or weevils are present fumigate with carbon bisulphid, a liquid which vaporizes, producing a gas heavier than air. To fumigate, place the seed in an air-tight receptacle and pour the carbon bisulphid over the seed. Open to air in from 24 to 36 hours. Use an ounce of carbon bisulphid to a bushel of seed. Carbon bisulphid is very inflammable and fire or flame must not be taken near the fumigating receptacle. Disregard of this precaution will result in an explosion.

This manual was prepared by the Commission's experts and is based on their own research and experience, supplemented by information procured from the United States Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Colleges, Experiment Stations, and other sources.

The National War Garden Commission, wishing to do all within its power to aid the War Industries Board in the very necessary economy in the use of paper, has limited the edition of this book and asks those who receive it in quantity to make the most careful distribution so that the book may reach the hands of none but those who will use it. IF THE INDIVIDUAL RECIPIENT CAN NOT USE THIS BOOK IT IS URGED THAT IT BE HANDED TO SOME ONE WHO WILL USE IT.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
Cold frame and Hotbed	7
Community gardening	1
Community storage	24
Cultivation	11
DISEASES AND INSECTS	16
FERTILIZERS—	
Commercial	5
Compost	5
Green manure	6
INDOOR PLANTING	9
PLANTING—	
Continuous crops	11
Fall crops	10
Succession of crops	10
Table for planting	23
Time of planting	10
POTATOES—	
Growing	12
Diseases and insects	21
Storage	28
POTATOES, SWEET—	
Growing	13
Storage	29
SEED—	
Quantity to buy	9
Saving for next year	30
Testing before planting	8
SPRAYING	16
SOIL	5, 7
STORAGE—	
Apples	29
Cellar	24
Outdoor cellar	27
Pit	26
Seed	32
Various methods	27
TOOLS	7

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Mobile, Alabama.
September 6th, 1918.

MR. P. S. RIDSDALE, Secretary,
National War Garden Commission,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ridsdale:

I desire to tender my sincere thanks for the books which you have furnished for distribution and use among the war gardeners of Mobile, and as encouragement and assistance to others to take up this splendid work conducive not only to increased supply of food products, but to the health and happiness of those who wisely give Mother Earth the attention which just at this time she all the more richly deserves.

It is needless for me to assure you that the books have been extremely helpful. I consider them the most complete and serviceable ever produced; and excepting only the family Bible, the foundation of all ethics and morality as well as the common law, these books are of more vital importance to every householder, in fact, good citizens throughout the land, than most printed matter obtainable.

Your books on canning and drying are likewise of inestimable value, and your splendid co-operation in the common cause of increasing and conserving the food supply in our present crisis meets with the heartiest appreciation.

Very sincerely,
(Signed) HENRY A. FORCHHEIMER,
Federal Food Administration Board.

UNITED STATES FOOD ADMINISTRATION

Davenport, Iowa.
September 5, 1918.

MR. P. S. RIDSDALE, Secretary,
National War Garden Commission,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

My dear Mr. Ridsdale:

We have found your publications of great value in our work in this State and it gives me pleasure to thank you for your prompt and cordial compliance with all of our requests.

Your book on War Vegetable Gardening and the one devoted to Canning and Drying are filled with information of great value to the gardener and housewife.

It has been a source of great satisfaction to us to be able to distribute your books in every County in Iowa and we have used care to place them in the hands of people who need them and who are constantly calling for just the information contained in them.

We feel that your co-operation has been of great importance.

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) M. L. PARKER,
State Merchant Representative,
Iowa Food Administration.

After J. N. Darling, in New York Tribune.

NATIONAL WAR GARDEN COMMISSION

A Patriotic Organization Affiliated with the Conservation Department of the American Forestry Association

WASHINGTON, D. C.

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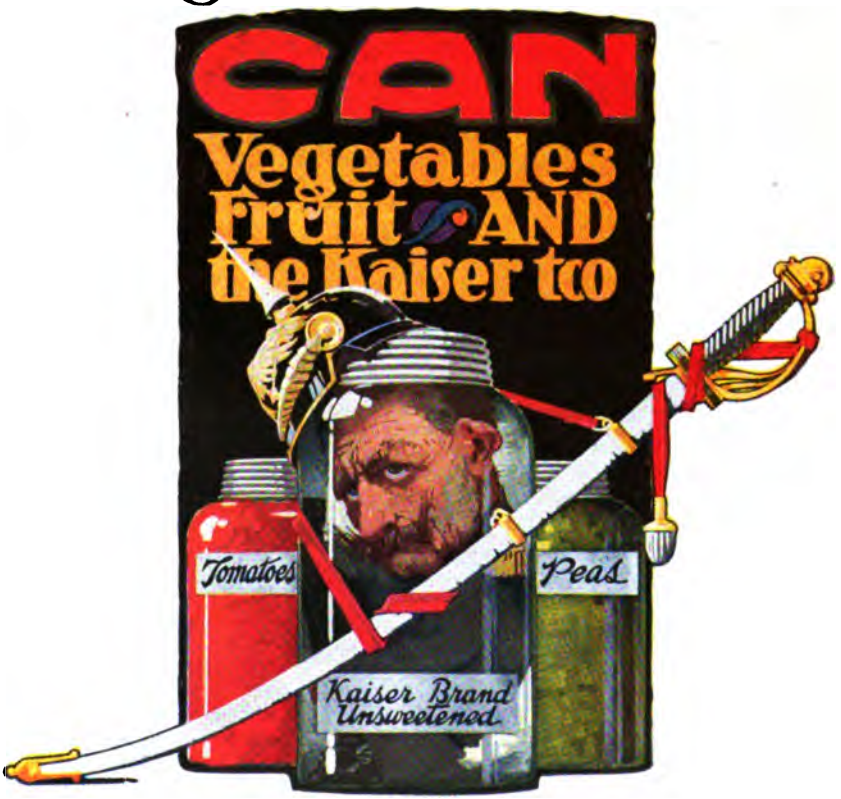

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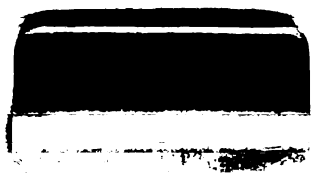
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